



PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND LODGE
Of Ancient
Free and Accepted Masons
OF CANADA,

AT A

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION HELD AT KINGSTON, ONT., ON
THE 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868,

ALSO,

ONE HELD AT THE CITY OF HAMILTON, ONT., ON THE FIRST
DAY OF JULY, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

AS LIKEWISE AT ITS

Fourteenth Annual Communication,
HELD AT MONTREAL, P. Q.

On the 14th day of JULY, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL LODGES AND PRESERVED.

A. A. STEVENSON, MONTREAL, P. Q.,
GRAND MASTER.

THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, HAMILTON, ONT.,
GRAND SECRETARY.

HAMILTON :

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—
1869.

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Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the City of Kingston, Ont., on the 20th day of October, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro.	W. B. Simpson,	P. G. M.,	as	Grand Master.
R. " "	Geo. M. Wilkinson,	D. D. G. M.,	as	Deputy G. M.
" " "	John V. Noel,		as	Grand Senior Warden.
" " "	R. Hendry, Jun.,		as	" Junior "
" " "	Rev. E. Bowen,		as	" Chaplain.
" " "	E. R. Welch,		as	" Treasurer.
" " "	Henry Dumble,		as	" Registrar.
" " "	A. McMillan,		as	" Secretary.
" " "	R. W. Barrow		as	" Senior Deacon.
" " "	Wm. Allen,		as	" Junior "
" " "	John Powers,		as	" Supt. of Works.
" " "	R. M. Horsey,		as	" Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " "	E. H. Smith,		as	" Sword Bearer.
" " "	G. W. Andrews,		as	" Organist.
" " "	S. H. Blondheim,		as	" Pusuivant.
" " "	D. Antrobus,			
" " "	J. G. King,			
" " "	G. Smith,		as	" Stewards.
" " "	Alex. McKenzie,			
" " "	Thomas Graham,			" Tyler.

And the Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of various Lodges.

M. W. Bro. Simpson, on the assemblage of the Brethren at the St. George's Hall, informed them that he had been deputed by the M. W. Grand Master to act as his representative, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of a New Building about to be erected in the Market Square of this City, the upper portion of which it was intended should be especially set apart for the use of the Craft.

A Grand Lodge was opened in *due form* at Eleven o'clock A. M.

A procession was then formed in the order as laid down in the Book of Constitution, under the superintendence of the acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and proceeded to the Market Square. On arriving at the site of the proposed building, the Brethren opened out in two columns facing inward. The M. W. the acting Grand Master, preceded by the Standard Bearer and Sword Bearer, and followed by the acting Grand Officers, took up their proper positions around the foundation stone, and the remainder of the Brethren having formed round them, the acting Grand Master ascended the platform and addressed the assemblage as follows:—

“Men, women, and children, here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony: Know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God—who is the Great Architect of all things,—to confer benefits on our brethren, and to practice universal benevolence to all mankind. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered; but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and are placed in the custody of Masons, who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time. Unless our Craft were good, and our calling honora-

ble, we should not have existed for so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrious brothers in our Order, ever ready to sanction our proceedings and contribute to our prosperity. To-day we are assembled in the presence of you all, to lay the corner stone of this building according to the rules of Masonry; but before proceeding, our Rev. Chaplain will implore a blessing from Heaven on the undertaking.

GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Almighty and Eternal God, Architect and Ruler of the Universe, at whose creative fiat all thing were at first made: We, the frail creatures of thy providence, do humbly beseech of thee to pour down on this convocation the continual dew of thy blessing.

More especially we invoke thy blessing on this undertaking; ever remembering the object and aim of this institution—obedience to thy most holy laws. Grant, we beseech thee, that our Order may flourish in every part of the globe, become influential in the diffusion of the light of wisdom, aiding and strengthening reason and dissipating and lessening human vice. May it teach us to regulate our actions by the rule of unity, square our conduct by the principle of morality, and guide our thoughts and our conversation within the compass of propriety.

May the edifice which is this day commenced be carried forward to its completion prosperously. Do thou protect the workmen; secure them from all injury; and when completed, may it be the means of strengthening our Order.

Finally, grant unto us the knowledge of thy truth. Do thou be our Ruler; and finally admit us into thy kingdom, for thy great Name's sake. Amen.

Glory be to God on high.

RESPONSE.—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

The inscription on the parchment placed in the cavity was read, as follows :—

By the favor of Almighty God.

On the 20th day of October, MDCCCLXVIII,

Of the era of Masonry 5868,

And in the Thirty-second year of the reign of our beloved Sovereign

Victoria,

(Whom may God preserve ;)

The Right Honorable CHARLES STANLEY, Viscount Monck, &c.,

Being Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada,

AND

JOHN BREDEN, Esq., Mayor of the City of Kingston,

ALEXANDER A. STEVENSON, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master,

The Corner Stone of this Building,

The upper portion of which is set apart for a Masonic Hall,

was laid by

Most Worshipful Brother WILLIAM BENJAMIN SIMPSON,

Past Grand Master, assisted by

Right Worshipful Brother GEORGE MARKLAND WILKINSON,

District Deputy Grand Master for the District,

And an Especial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Canada,

attended by various brethren,

And in presence of a large concourse of people.

There was also placed in the cavity, inclosed in a box made of zinc : List of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Canada for 1868-9 ; list of the Officers and Members of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, and of the Cataraque Lodge, No. 92, Kingston ; *Kingston News* and *British Whig* of the day, together with silver and copper coins of the Dominion.

The box having been placed in the cavity, Bro. R. Town presented to the acting Grand Master a Silver Trowel bearing the following inscription:—

“Presented to Most Worshipful Brother W. B. SIMPSON, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, on the occasion of his laying the corner stone of the building known as the Masonic Hall, Kingston, by Brother RICHARD TOWN.—Kingston, Ontario, Oct. 20, 5868.”

The trowel is of beautiful workmanship, and the handle of highly polished boxwood, inlaid with the jewel of the Past Grand Master and the emblem of the sun in silver.

The acting Grand Master having received the trowel, descended the platform, and took his station to the East of the stone, the Deputy Grand Master on his right, the Wardens in the West and South. After spreading cement on the under stone, the upper stone was lowered by three regular stops, while the band played solemn music. The stone having been placed, and the Lewis removed, the Past Grand Master said:—

R. Wor. Deputy Grand Master, you will cause the various implements to be applied to the stone, in order that it may be laid in its bed according to the rules of Architecture.

The Deputy Grand Master desired the Grand Junior Warden to apply the plumb rule; he next desired the Grand Senior Warden to apply the level, and he himself applied the square.

Acting G. M.—Brother Grand Junior Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office?

G. J. W.—The plumb rule.

G. M.—Have you applied the plumb rule to the edges of the stone?

G. J. W.—I have Most Worshipful Sir, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

The same questions as to the level and the square, with a like response, were put to and given by the G. S. W., and the acting D. G. M.

A. G. M.—Having, my Right Worshipful Brothers, full confidence in your skill in our Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish the work.

The acting Grand Master then gave three strokes on the stone with his gavel, saying: Well made and truly laid.

ACTING GRAND CHAPLAIN.—O Lord prosper thou our work; yea, prosper thou our handiwork, and teach us in all times, and in all places, to build up in beauty that temple of our souls, which thou has given us to adorn, with all good works. And may the Great Architect of the Universe grant a blessing on the foundation stone now laid, and by his providence enable this and every other work, which may be undertaken, to be finished for the embellishment and advantage of this City, and the promotion of the views for which they may be erected.

RESPONSE.—Amen.

The vessels containing the corn, wine, and oil, were then successively handed to the Grand Master, during the delivery of the following benediction:—

ACTING GRAND MASTER.—Having laid this stone, may the Grand Architect of the Universe, who has so kindly blessed us in the proceedings of this day, enable those engaged in the building to complete it, and may it hereafter be preserved from ruin and decay, and be of lasting prosperity. I therefore strew *corn* on the stone as the emblem of plenty; I pour *wine* on it as the emblem of cheerfulness; and I anoint it with *oil* as the emblem of comfort and consolation.

The Grand Honors were then given.

The acting Grand Master, after having inspected the plan of the proposed building, directed that it, with the implements which had been used to prove the stone, should be returned to the architect, and said: Mr. Architect, the foundation stone of this building, designed in much wisdom by you, being now laid, and the implements having been duly applied to it, I return them to you in full confidence, that as a skilful and faithful workman, you will use them in such a manner that the building may rise in order, harmony and beauty, and being perfected in strength, will answer every purpose for which it is intended, to your credit, and to the honor of those who have selected you.

The acting Grand Master then addressed Bro. Town, in acknowledgment of the gift of the trowel: You have presented me with an implement of our Craft which I shall greatly prize, not for its intrinsic worth, or for the surpassing beauty of its workmanship, which does honor to the silversmith who made it, but for the kindly and fraternal feelings which dictated its presentation; and be assured I shall ever retain it as an honored memento of this day.

The following address was delivered at the request of the M. W. the P. Grand Master, by R. W. Bro. R. Bull:

The corner stone of this building having been laid with Masonic honors, it may not be amiss if I address you a few words concerning our Order.

Of all human institutions with which history, or my experience has made me acquainted, Masonry holds, and ever will hold, the most distinguished pre-eminence. It instructs us to value more than life the sacred obligations of Honor, Truth, and Friendship, and all those charities which bind man to man; and to adorn by our public and private conduct the dignity of our profession. One of the features of Masonry which is peculiar to itself, is that whilst it speaks

by signs, it is well understood. A peculiar language, it unites in the same bond the natives of Europe, of Asia, of Africa, and of America, and resolves, as into one mass, all religious and political prejudices, whether of education or of habit, and acknowledges no other distinction than those of virtue or vice—good or evil. Indeed all the worst passions of men, which intemperate discussion of those important subjects are calculated to arouse, seem to be hushed to rest in a Lodge of Freemasons, and the reflective mind contemplates with delight a scene of harmony, unequalled in any other association.

Men unacquainted with our mysteries are apt to imagine we have nothing to conceal, and will frequently contend that the whole of Masonry consists in conviviality and in ceremonies at once trifling and superficial. Our secrecy of itself is a virtue, and our ceremonies, as every brother well knows, who has paid them the attention they deserve, are not only useful but necessary. Every sign we make, every implement we use in our labor, every object we view in the lodge, inculcates some moral lesson, and presents to our mind's eye some duty to be performed or some error to be avoided; when we advert to their origin, we perceive clearly how insensibly our mysteries would sink into disregard if they should cease to be mysterious. We dwell with pleasure upon the ideas they convey through the senses to the soul, and we learn to estimate their value only from their propriety and usefulness.

By simple and suitable symbols we learn the difference between physical and moral good, to judge of the Creator by the works of his creation, and to infer from thence that our wise Master Builder, who has planned and completed a habitation so suitable to our wants, so convenient to our temporary residence here, has exercised still more Wisdom in contriving, more Strength in supporting, and more Beauty in adorning those Eternal Mansions where he has promised to receive and reward the faithful hereafter. Thus our Faith and Hope are exercised by the study of Masonry; but there is a virtue which Divine authority has pronounced greater

than Faith or Hope, and to this excellent virtue of Charity are our Masonic labors more especially directed; to visit the sick and the fatherless in their afflictions, to comfort those that mourn, and carry as it were, into the dungeons of human misery, the Divine essence of Masonry.

These are our professions in the Lodge, and should invariably regulate our conduct out of it in our commerce with the world. In what, Brethren, would Freemasonry exist if it had no influence upon our general deportment? It is only by acting upon the square and living within the compass—by practising the duties of morality, and limiting our desires—that we can demonstrate to the ignorant and the prejudiced, the well-founded superiority of our pretensions. If our Order be built upon the basis of Brotherly Love, of Truth, of Temperance, of Prudence, and of Justice, let us be careful “to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called;” for be assured that if in our conduct we forget that we are men, the world with its usual severity will remember that we are Masons. Let, therefore, our conduct be a letter of recommendation, “seen and read of all men,” thus a good life will be an unanswerable refutation of every charge.

Finally, my Brethren, if we have any true love for Masonry, let us be careful not only to rule and govern our faith, but to square our actions by the Holy Word of God, that unerring standard of Truth and Justice which is the Great Light of Masonry; and while with each other we ever walk upon the level, may we also keep within due bounds with all mankind. Thus shall we merit and obtain the reputation not only of good men and true, but of wise and skillful Free and Accepted Masons.

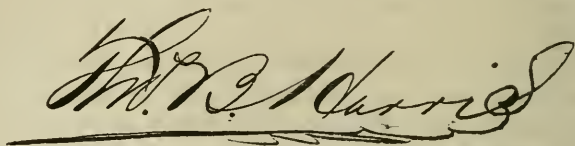
The Grand Treasurer then deposited a handful of coin on the stone for the workmen.

Band played the National Anthem.

Three cheers were given for the Queen, and three for the Grand Master.

The procession was then reformed, and marched to the British American Hotel where a champagne lunch had been provided for the Brethren ; after partaking of which the procession was again re-formed and proceeded to St. George's Hall.

The Grand Lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "W. B. Harris". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

G. Sec'y.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held in the Mechanic's Hall, in the City of Hamilton, on the First day of July, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro.	A. A. Stevenson,	Grand Master.
R. W. Bro.	James Seymour,	Deputy Grand Master.
" " "	Hon. H. B. Bull,	Past District Deputy G. Master.
" " "	Æmilius Irving,	" " " " "
" " "	John W. Murton,	Grand Senior Warden.
" " "	Charles Magill,	as " Junior Warden.
" " "	Rev. J. Gilray,	as " Chaplain.
V. " "	James Bain,	as " Treasurer.
" " "	Richard White,	as " Registrar.
R. " "	Thomas B. Harris,	" Secretary.
V. " "	John King,	" Senior Deacon.
" " "	R. P. Stephens,	as " Junior Deacon.
" " "	Robert Robinson,	as " Supt. of Works.
V. " "	William Edgar,	as " Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " "	Edward Mitchell,	Asst. " Secretary.
" " "	W. W. Pringle,	" " Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " "	Frederick Mudge,	" " Sword Bearer.
" " "	D. McLellan,	as " Organist.
" " "	G. Holden, as Asst.	" " "
" " "	James Watson,	as " Pursuivant.
V. " "	W. B. Irving,	} as " Stewards.
" " "	Geo. Hodgetts,	
" " "	J. Simcoe Kerr,	
V. " "	Allen McLean,	
" " "	Dr. Howsen,	} as " Tyler.
" " "	Alfred J. Nuthall,	

VISITING :

R. W. Bro. C. E. Young, Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

W. Bros. John A. Lockwood, and John Walls, from Buffalo; and W. Bros. B. Flayer and J. B. King, from Niagara, New York State.

Nearly 400 Brethren, hailing from the following Lodges: Barton, No. 6, Hamilton; Union, No. 7, Grimsby; St. George, No. 15, Montreal; St. Andrews, No. 16, Toronto; King Solomon's, No. 22, Toronto; Ionic, No. 25, Toronto; Strict Observance, No. 27, Hamilton; St. John's, No. 40, Hamilton; Brant, No. 45, Brantford; St. Andrew's, No. 62, Caledonia; St. John's, No. 68, Ingersoll; Alma, No. 72, Galt; St. John's, No. 75, Toronto; Wilson, No. 86, Toronto; Valley, No. 100, Dundas; Maple Leaf, No. 103, St. Catharines; Burlington, No. 165, Wellington Square; Wentworth, No. 166, Stoney Creek.

The M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master, announced to the Brethren that he had been invited by the Church Wardens and parishioners, to lay the foundation stone of a new "St. Thomas," Episcopal, Church which was about to be erected in this City, and having consented to do so, he had instructed the Grand Secretary to summon the Grand Officers and the Grand Lodge to assist him in performing the ceremonies.

The Grand Lodge was opened in **ample form** at high Twelve.

A procession was then formed in the order as laid down in the Book of Constitution, under the guidance of the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his assistants, and headed by the Band of the 13th Battalion, proceeded to the Gore, where the "St. George's" and "Irish Protestant" Benevolent Societies were already assembled. The procession, with banners flying, was a very imposing and pretty sight. The handsome and gay regalias of the

Grand Officers, Royal Arch, and Knights Templar, and the badges of the other Societies with their banners, &c., produced a fine effect. The procession thus augmented proceeded to the grounds of the intended structure, where having arrived, the whole of the procession halted and faced inward in double column. The M. W. Grand Master, preceded by the Grand Sword Bearer, and followed by the Grand Officers and Brethren in reverse order, passed along the procession; on arriving at a Triumphal Arch of evergreen, beautifully decorated with flowers, and surmounted with a Crown, beneath which was a Beaver, the emblem of Canada and of Industry, were received and conducted to a platform by the Rev. E. Neville, LL.D., the Rector of St. Thomas Parish.

On a second platform were the following Clergymen, viz: Rev. Archdeacon Fuller, Revds. J. G. Geddes, J. Hebden, Dr. Green, J. Alexander, R. Harrison, G. A. Bull, T. S. Cartwright, J. D. Gibson and Dr. Neville.

The Church ceremony was commenced by the choir singing the *Te Deum*, after which the 48th and 122nd Psalms were read. The Rev. Archdeacon Fuller and the Rev. J. G. Geddes, made short and very appropriate addresses to the large assemblage, which could not have been short of 5,000 persons. Bro. the Rev. Dr. Neville likewise made some remarks, which were listened to with marked attention. He closed by thanking all present for their attendance.

A collection in aid of the funds of the Church was then taken up.

The M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master, commenced the Masonic ceremonies with the following address:—

Men, women and children, assembled here to behold

this ceremony : Know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God, who is the Great Architect of the Universe ; to honor the Queen ; to confer benefits upon our brethren, and to practice universal benevolence towards all mankind.

We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all other men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered ; but those secrets are lawful and honorable, and are placed in the custody of Masons, who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time.

Freemasonry, as has been well and truly said, is an institution which welcomes equally to its bosom the Jew and Gentile, the Christian and the Mahommedan, requiring from each only a just sense of moral rectitude and conscientious obligation. It knows no country, and is confined to no race. Its blessings and its benefits are universal as civilization itself. Within its ranks are to be found men of every class and color and creed, who have been reported to be good men and true ; of lawful age, good morals, and sound judgment. All meet upon a level, and are constantly instructed to square their conduct by the principles of morality and virtue.

The lapse of time, the ruthless hand of ignorance, the devastations of war, have laid waste and destroyed many valuable monuments of antiquity on which the utmost exertions of human genius have been employed. Even the Temple of Solomon, so spacious and magnificent, and constructed by so many celebrated artists, escaped not the unsparring ravages of barbaric force. Freemasonry, notwithstanding, has still survived, and in our day presents the wondrous spectacle of an institution hoary with age, yet possessing all the freshness and vigour of youth. The attentive ear receives the sound from the instructive tongue, and the mysteries of Masonry are safely lodged in the repository of faithful breasts. Various tools and implements of architecture are selected by the fraternity to imprint on the memory wise and serious truths ; and thus, through

successive ages, are transmitted pure and unimpaired, the excellent tenets of our institution.

Unless our Craft were good, and our calling honorable we should not have existed for so many centuries; nor, should we see to-day, as in all time past, so many distinguished and illustrious brethren throughout the civilized world sanctioning our proceedings and contributing to our prosperity.

On this, the anniversary of the foundation of our New Dominion, we have assembled at your request to lay the foundation stone of this Church, in accordance with the rites of our fraternity. We pray God to prosper this undertaking and enable those who have commenced the work to carry it on to completion. May the Great Architect himself direct aright all who are connected with the erection of this building, which is to be consecrated to the worship of the Most High. May it prove a blessing to this community; and may many within its walls be brought from darkness into light, and made meet for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. Amen.

Bro. the Rev. J. Gilray, acting Grand Chaplain, offered up the following prayer:—

Great Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of all the worlds, deign from thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory, to help us in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly pray thee to give us at this and at all times wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, oh! thou Author of life and light, great source of love and happiness, to erect this building so that hereafter it may be useful and blessed for the all-important purposes for which it is intended, and the promotion of Thy glory.

The Brethren responded—Glory to God in the highest. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, Grand Secretary, read the following, which was elegantly engrossed on vellum :—

By the favor of Almighty God.

On the First day of July, A. D. MDCCCLXIX,

Of the Era of Freemasonry 5869,

And in the Thirty-third year of the reign of Our Gracious and
much-beloved Sovereign,

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, India, and the Dependencies in Europe
Asia, Africa, America, and Australasia,

His Excellency Sir JOHN YOUNG, K. C. B., C. G. M., being Governor
General of the Dominion of Canada,

The Hon. WILLIAM PEARCE HOWLAND, C. B., Lieutenant-Governor of the
Province of Ontario,

JAMES EDWIN O'REILLY, Esq., Mayor of the City of Hamilton,

The Rt. Rev. A. N. Bethune, D. D., D. C. L., Lord Bishop of Toronto,

AND

Rev. Edmund Neville, D. D., Rector,

Francis Edwin Kilvert, Esq., H. W. Woodward, Esq., Churchwardens,

A. H. Hills, Esq., Architect,

Thomas Appleyard, Mason ; R. Butcher, Carpenter ; and James Way,
Painter, Contractors.

The land for the site of this Church was presented by

Ebenezer Stinson, Esq., of this City.

The Foundation Stone of this St. Thomas Church,

was laid by

ALEXANDER ALLAN STEVENSON, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master,
attended and assisted by a Special Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and

Accepted Masons of Canada, and various Lodges and Brethren,

in accordance with the Ancient Usages of Masonry,

WHICH MAY GOD PROSPER.

BUILDING COMMITTEE :

John H. Davis, Chairman ; Robert R. Morgan, Jonathan Meakins,
Geo. Barnes, Francis Edwin Kilvert, Dr. H. Strange, and Wm. Haskins.

TRUSTEES OF THE LAND :

Robert R. Morgan and Jonathan Meakins.

TREASURER OF THE BUILDING FUND :

Robert R. Morgan.

The foregoing, with a copy of the proceedings of the
Grand Lodge of Canada for 1868, a list of the Grand
Officers, a list of the Officers of the Lodges and Encamp-

ment in this city, a copy of the proceedings of the Synod for 1868, copies of the *Spectator*, *Times*, and *Christian Advocate*, coins of the denomination of 20, 10, 5 and 1 cent pieces—were placed in a glass bottle and deposited in the cavity in the stone, over the orifice of which was placed a brass plate, on which was the following inscription :—

The Foundation Stone of "St. Thomas" Church was laid with Masonic Ceremonies on the 1st day of July, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

Bro. The Rev. Dr. Neville, presented to the M. W. Grand Master a very handsome Silver Trowel, having the following inscription :—

Presented to ALEXANDER A. STEVENSON, Esquire, M. W. Grand Master of A. F. & A. Masons of Canada, by the Churchwardens and Parishioners, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of St. Thomas Church, Hamilton, Ont., 1st day of July, A. D., 1869.

On receiving which, the Grand Master replied : Accept my thanks for this handsome Trowel which you have so kindly presented to me. It is one of the most useful and most highly prized implements of our Craft. I shall preserve your gift as a memento of the interesting proceedings of this day.

After receiving the Trowel, the Grand Master spread the cement, and the upper stone was lowered by three regular stops, solemn music being played ; the upper stone having been lowered, the Grand Junior Warden applied the plumb, the Grand Senior Warden the level, and the Deputy Grand Master the square.

G. M.—Brother Grand Junior Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office ?

G. J. W.—The plumb rule.

G. M.—Have you applied the plumb rule to the edges of the stone ?

G. J. W.—I have Most Worshipful Sir, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

The same questions as to the level and the square, with a like response, were put to and given by the G. S. W., and the D. G. M.

The Grand Master said: Brethren, having full confidence in your skill in our Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish our work. He here gave three knocks with the gavel, and added: *Well made, well proved, truly laid, true and trusty.* And may this undertaking be conducted and completed by the Craftsmen according to the grand plan; in Peace, Harmony, and Brotherly love.

Corn, Wine and Oil were then handed the Grand Master, by the Deputy, who poured each upon the stone, and said: I strew corn upon the stone as the emblem of Plenty; I pour wine on it as the emblem of Cheerfulness, and I anoint it with oil as the emblem of Comfort and Consolation.

The Grand Master then pronounced the following Benediction:—

May Corn, Wine and Oil, and all the necessities of life abound among men throughout the world; and may the blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe be upon this edifice and all connected with it.

General response—So mote it be. Amen.

The Grand Master then handed the implements and plans to the Architect, saying: The foundation stone of this building being now laid, I present you the implements applied to it, and also the plans, in full confidence that as a skilful and faithful workman you will use them in such a manner that the building may rise in order, harmony and beauty; and being perfected in strength,

that it may answer every purpose for which it is intended, to your credit, and the satisfaction and honor of those who have selected you for the work.

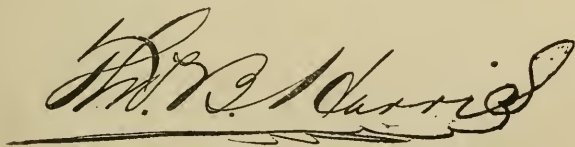
The Grand Master, addressing the Incumbent, said :—
Rev. Sir, having completed our work according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry, we offer you our congratulations, and transfer the building to you for completion, having no doubt that as it has happily been begun, it will be carried on by God's will to a happy ending.

Cheers were then given for the Queen, the Grand Master, the Reverend Dr. Neville, and the assemblage dispersed.

A most substantial luncheon had been prepared by the Hamilton Masons for their visiting brethren and friends, in a very beautiful grove a few yards south of the ground of the intended Church. The matter had been given in charge to Bro. Geo. Lee, and the duty was performed in such style as to merit the warmest approbation of all concerned.

The procession was re-formed and the Brethren returned to the Masonic Hall.

After a few remarks by the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge was closed in *ample form* with solemn prayer.

A large, flowing handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to the Grand Secretary mentioned in the text below.

G. Sec'y.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At the Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, at the City of Montreal, Que., on the 14th, 15th, and 16th days of July, A. L. 5869, A. D. 1869.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

R. W. Bro. James Seymour, Deputy Grand Master.

	" "	A. W. Ogilvie,	as	Grand Senior Warden.
V.	" "	James Bain,	as	" Junior "
	" "	S. B. Fairbanks,	as	" Chaplain.
R.	" "	Henry Macpherson,	as	" Treasurer.
V.	" "	Henry Robertson,	as	" Registrar.
R.	" "	Thos. B. Harris,		" Secretary.
V.	" "	John King,		" Senior Deacon.
	" "	" Daniel Thomas,		" Junior "
	" "	" John Paterson,	as	" Supt. of Works.
	" "	" John Taylor,		" Dir. of Cer.
	" "	" Edward Mitchell,	Asst.	" Secretary.
	" "	" Edward C. Barker,	"	" Dir. of Cer.
	" "	" Frederick Mudge,		" Sword Bearer.
	" "	" George A. Pearce,		" Organist.
	" "	" A. E. Fife,	Asst.	" "
	" "	" J. Might,		" Pursuivant.
R.	" "	Robert Noxon,		" Tyler.
V.	" "	L. W. Decker,	}	" Stewards.
	" "	" Robt. Hendry, Jun.,		
	" "	" J. Quigg,		
	" "	" G. Billington,		
	" "	" John G. Gemmell,		
	" "	" Allen McLean,		
	" "	" Isaac B. Futvoye,		

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro.	John E. Brooke,	London	District.
" "	David Curtis,	Wilson	"
" "	Thomas Matheson,	Huron	"
" "	John Parry,	Hamilton	"
" "	M. H. Spencer,	Toronto	"
" "	William McCabe,	Ontario	"
" "	Geo. M. Wilkinson,	St. Lawrence	"
" "	Alexander Murray,	Montreal	"
" "	John H. Graham,	Eastern Townships	"
" "	Alex. Walker,	Quebec	"

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. W. Bro.	A. Bernard,	Representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, and the Grand Orient of New Grenada.
R. " "	Thomas Bird Harris,	Representative of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, the Grand Orient of Portugal and the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.
" " "	John H. Graham,	Representative of the Grand Lodge of Maine.
M. " "	T. Douglas Harington,	Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.
" " "	A. A. Stevenson,	Representative of the Grand Orient of Brazil.
R. " "	Henry Macpherson,	Representative of the Grand Orient of Uruguay.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro.	T. Douglas Harington,	P. G. M.
" " "	A. Bernard,	P. G. M.
" " "	W. B. Simpson,	P. G. M.
R. " "	A. DeGrassi,	P. D. D. G. M.
" " "	Wm. H. Weller,	P. D. D. G. M.
" " "	L. H. Henderson,	P. D. D. G. M.
" " "	John V. Noel,	P. D. D. G. M.

R. W. Bro.	C. D. Macdonnell,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	J. Milne,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	G. H. Borlase,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	A. G. Macdonell,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	John Turner,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	R. Bull,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	Henry Macpherson,	P. G. S. W.
" "	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick,	P. G. S. W.
" "	Isaac H. Stearns,	P. G. S. W.
" "	John Kerr,	P. G. S. W.
" "	John Renshaw,	P. G. J. W.
" "	B. C. Davy,	P. G. J. W.
" "	Robert Irwin,	P. G. R.
V. "	John Clarke,	P. G. S. D.
" "	W. W. Pringle,	P. G. J. D.
" "	James Bowman,	P. G. J. D.
" "	F. J. Rastrick,	P. G. S. of W.
" "	B. E. Charlton,	P. G. D. of C.
" "	E. H. Parker,	P. G. D. of C.
" "	Wm. Angus,	P. A. G. Sec.
" "	James Bain,	P. G. S. B.
" "	Otto Klotz,	P. G. S. B.
" "	H. Waterman,	P. G. Org.
" "	F. C. Dettmers,	P. G. Org.
" "	Philip Henry,	P. G. Steward.
" "	J. Kirkpatrick Kerr,	P. G. "
" "	P. J. Brown,	P. G. "
" "	John Paterson,	P. G. "
" "	Henry Robertson,	P. G. "
" "	J. M. Dunn,	P. G. "
" "	Henry Dumble,	P. G. "
" "	N. Allan Gamble,	P. G. "

PAST MASTERS.

W. Bro.	M. Gutman,	R. W. Bro.	A. S. Kirkpatrick,
V. W. Bro.	F. C. Dettmers,	V. "	" E. H. Parker,
" "	Philip Henry,	R. "	" Geo. M. Wilkinson,
" "	Thomas Woods,	" "	" C. D. Macdonnell,
R. "	James Seymour,	V. "	" J. B. Futvoye,

V. W. Bro.	Thos. Wilkinson,	V. W. Bro.	H. Waterman,
" "	J. Quigg,	" "	John Paterson,
M. "	W. B. Simpson,	" "	F. Mudge,
V. "	B. E. Charlton,	R. "	David Curtis,
" "	Robert Kemp,	" "	Alex. Walker,
V. "	L. W. Decker,	" "	John Tweddell,
" "	H. Montgomery,	" "	Arch. McCallum,
" "	T. Richardson,	" "	John G. Gemmell,
R. "	Benj. C. Davy,	V. "	Edward C. Barber,
V. "	John Clarke,	" "	J. B. Taylor,
" "	N. B. Falkiner,	V. "	F. J. Rastrick,
R. "	L. H. Henderson,	" "	E. Mitchell,
" "	Robt. Douglas,	" "	R. Lewis,
V. "	James Bain,	R. "	John H. Graham,
R. "	W. H. Weller,	" "	Timothy Leet,
" "	J. Mallory,	V. "	Allan McLean,
" "	J. N. Carter,	" "	Geo. E. Bull,
M. "	A. Bernard,	R. "	J. W. Borlase,
V. "	Wm. Angus,	V. "	Daniel Thomas,
R. "	Robert Irwin,	" "	Otto Klotz,
M. "	A. A. Stevenson,	" "	T. S. Fisher,
" "	Wm. Armstrong,	R. "	Thos. Matheson,
" "	P. Patterson,	" "	A. De Grassi,
V. "	J. Kirkpatrick Kerr,	" "	John Kerr,
" "	R. P. Stephens,	" "	M. H. Spencer,
V. "	W. W. Pringle,	" "	W. D. McGloghlon,
" "	W. R. Anderson,	V. "	Geo. Billington,
V. "	A. E. Fife,	" "	W. S. Martin,
R. "	J. Milne,	V. "	Thomas Camm,
" "	A. Brownson,	" "	Donald McMurchy,
R. "	John Parry,	R. "	H. Macpherson,
" "	Joseph Hurssell,	V. "	Henry Robertson,
V. "	P. J. Brown,	" "	C. R. Ford,
" "	H. W. Delany,	" "	Henry Dumble,
" "	Peter Begg,	" "	Robt. Hendry, Jun.
" "	J. P. Campbell,	R. "	John V. Noel,
R. "	Thos. B. Harris,	" "	John Edgecombe,
" "	Jno. F. McCuaig,	" "	Geo. Hogaboom,
R. "	Jno. E. Brooke,	V. "	N. Allan Gamble,

V. W. Bro. James Might,	W. Bro. J. Stephenson,
" " " John King,	" " N. M. Davy,
" " John Bartle,	M. " " T. D. Harington,
" " N. F. Dupuis,	" " James C. Brown,
V. " " Geo. En Earl,	" " C. S. Rowe,
" " M. R. Meigs,	" " C. P. Taber,
" " Sam'l. Hall,	" " Frank Edgar,
V. " " John Taylor,	" " John Moffat,
" " John P. Peavey,	" " J. Cascaden,
R. " " John Renshaw.	R. " " A. Murray,
" " " Isaac H. Stearns,	" " " R. Bull,
" " John H. Bartlett,	" " H. J. Geer,
" " John Broster,	" " Charles Sharpe.
R. " " John Turner,	V. " " J. M. Dunn,
" " Thos. G. Farmer,	" " John Breakey.
" " Sam'l McClung,	" " Henry Smith,
" " James Reynar,	" " N. A. Pickle.
V. " " J. Bowman,	" " Thos. Milton,
R. " " Wm. McCabe,	" " E. H. Smith,
" " John Boyd,	" " John Monroe,
" " S. B. Fairbanks,	" " W. W. Winfield,
" " T. F. Chamberlain,	" " Wm. Byers, Jun.,
" " A. G. Macdonell.	" " Charles Storer.

A constitutional number of Lodges being represented, a blessing was implored from the G. A. O. T. U. upon our proceedings.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and accepted Masons of Canada was opened in *Ample* form at 2:30 o'clock P.M.

The Board of General Purposes, as required by the Constitution, having appointed R. W. Bro. Charles D. Macdonnell, V. W. Bro. Allan McLean and W. Bro. Edwin Kemp a Committee on Credentials of Representatives from Lodges, reported the following as being present and entitled to take part in the proceedings of Grand Lodge :—

Lodge of Antiquity, Montreal, P. Q.

- W. Bro. M. Gutman, W. M.
 " John Urquhart, J. W.
 V. " " F. C. Dettmers, P. M.
 " " " Philip Henry, P. G. Std.

No. 1. Prevost Lodge, Dunham, P. Q.

- W. Bro. Edson Kemp, W. M.
 " H. W. Wood, S. W.
 " James Oliver, J. W.
 " " Thomas Wood, P. M.

No. 2. Niagara Lodge, Niagara, Ont.

- R. W. Bro. James Seymour, (Proxy.)

No. 3. St. John's Lodge, Kingston, Ont.

- R. W. Bro. Geo. M. Wilkinson, W. M.
 " D. McCartney, S. W.
 " " " Alex. S. Kirkpatrick, P. M.
 " " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. M.
 V. " " E. H. Parker, P. M.

No. 4. Dorchester Lodge, St. Johns, P. Q.

- Bro. Geo. H. Wilkinson, S. W.
 V. W. " Isaac B. Futvoye, P. M.

No. 5. Sussex Lodge, Brockville Ont.

- W. Bro. W. McKechnie, W. M.
 M. " " W. B. Simpson, P. M.
 V. " " Thomas Wilkinson, P. M.
 " " " J. Quigg, P. M.

No. 6. Barton Lodge, Hamilton, Ont.

- W. Bro. W. T. Munday, W. M.
 " Jas. Charlton, J. W.
 V. " " B. E. Charlton, P. M.

No. 7. Union Lodge, Grimsby, Ont.

- W. " Robert Kemp, W. M.

No. 8. Nelson Lodge, Philipsburg, P. Q.

- V. W. Bro. L. W. Decker, W. M.
 " " Rev. H. Montgomery, P. M.

No. 9. Union Lodge, Napanee, Ont.

- W. Bro. T. Richardson, W. M.
 R. " " B. C. Davy, P. M.

No. 10. *Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, Ont.*

W. Bro. A. J. Donly, W. M.

V. " " John Clarke, P. M.

No. 11. *Moirs Lodge, Belleville, Ont.*

W. Bro. A. Diamond, W. M.

R. " " L. H. Henderson, P. M.

" " N. B. Falkiner, P. M.

No. 12. *Golden Rule Lodge, Stanstead, Que.*

Bro. H. N. Hovey, S. W.

No. 14. *True Briton's Lodge, Perth, Ont.*

W. Bro. Robert Douglas, P. M.

No. 15. *St. George's Lodge, St. Catharines, Ont.*

W. Bro. Albert Chatfield, W. M.

No. 16. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto, Ont.*

V. W. Bro. James Bain, P. M. and Proxy.

No. 17. *St. John's Lodge, Cobourg, Ont.*

W. Bro. J. Mallory, W. M.

R. " " W. H. Weller, P. M.

No. 18. *Prince Edward's Lodge, Picton, Ont.*

W. Bro. J. N. Carter, W. M.

No. 19. *St. George's Lodge, Montreal, P. Q.*

M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, W. M.

" W. E. Bessey, J. W.

M. W. " A. A. Stevenson, P. M.

R. " " Robert Irwin, P. M.

V. " " Wm. Angus, P. M.

" " A. W. Ogilvie, P. M.

No. 21. *Zelland Lodge, Montreal, Que.*

W. Bro. Wm. Armstrong, W. M.

" M. Doyle, S. W.

" Henry McVittie, J. W.

No. 22. *King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto, Ont.*

W. Bro. David McLellan, W. M.

No. 23. *Richmond Lodge, Richmond Hill, Ont.*

W. Bro. P. Patterson, (Proxy.)

- No. 25. *Ionic Lodge, Toronto, Ont.*
W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, W. M.
" James E. Day, S. W.
V. " " J. K. Kerr, P. M.
- No. 27. *Strict Observance Lodge, Hamillon, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 28. *Mount Zion Lodge, Kemptville, Ont.*
W. Bro. W. R. Anderson, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 29. *United Lodge, Brighton, Ont.*
W. Bro. Joseph Davey, W. M.
V. " " A. E. Fife, P. M.
- No. 30. *Composite Lodge, Whitby, Ont.*
W. Bro. C. A. Jones, W. M.
" Daniel Betts, S. W.
- No. 31. *Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. J. Milne, W. M.
" J. J. Gates, J. W.
- No. 32. *Amity Lodge, Dunnville, Ont.*
W. Bro. A. Brownson, P. M. and Proxy.
R. " " John Parry, P. M.
- No. 35. *St. John's Lodge, Cayuga, Ont.*
W. Bro. Joseph Hurssell, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 36. *Welland Lodge, Fonthill, Ont.*
W. Bro. David Killins, W. M.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. Peter J. Brown, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 38. *Trent Lodge, Trenton, Ont.*
W. Bro. H. W. Delany, P. M. and Proxy.
" " Peter Begg, P. M.
- No. 39. *Mount Zion Lodge, Brooklin, Ont.*
W. Bro. J. P. Campbell, W. M.
- No. 40. *St. John's Lodge, Hamilton, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, W. M.
W. " John F. McCuaig, P. M.

- No. 41. *St. George's Lodge, Kingsville, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, (Proxy.)
- No. 42. *St. George's Lodge, London, Ont.*
W. Bro. W. Skinner, W. M.
V. " " H. Waterman, P. M.
- No. 43. *King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Paterson, P. M.
- No. 44. *St. Thomas Lodge, St. Thomas, Ont.*
Bro. James Carrie, S. W.
- No. 45. *Brant Lodge, Brantford, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. Frederick Mudge, W. M.
R. " " D. Curtis, P. M.
- No. 46. *Wellington Lodge, Chatham, Ont.*
W. Bro. Wm. Curruthers, W. M.
R. " " John E. Brooke, P. M.
- No. 48. *Madoc Lodge, Madoc, Ont.*
W. Bro. Peter Begg, (Proxy.)
- No. 49. *Harington Lodge, Quebec, Que.*
R. W. Bro. Alex. Walker, P. M. and Proxy.
" " John Tweddell, P. M.
" " Arch. McCallum, P. M.
- No. 50. *Consecon Lodge, Consecon, Ont.*
W. Bro. H. W. Delany, (Proxy.)
- No. 54. *Vaughan Lodge, Maple, Ont.*
W. Bro. P. Patterson, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 56. *Victoria Lodge, Sarnia, Ont.*
Bro. Thomas Robb, S. W.
- No. 58. *Doric Lodge, Ottawa Ont.*
W. Bro. John G. Gemmell, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 59. *Corinthian Lodge, Ottawa, Ont.*
W. Bro. Isaac B. Taylor, W. M.
V. " " Edward C. Barber, P. M.

- No. 61. *Acacia Lodge, Hamilton, Ont.*
 V. W. Bro. E. Mitchell, W. M.
 R. " " Thos. B. Harris, P. M.
 V. " " F. J. Rastrick, P. M.
- No. 62. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Caledonia, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 64. *Kilwinning Lodge, London, Ont.*
 Bro. John Peel, S. W.
 W. " Robert Lewis, P. M.
- No. 66. *Durham Lodge, Newcastle, Ont.*
 W. Bro. John Waddell, W. M.
- No. 67. *St. Francis Lodge, Richmond, Que.*
 W. Bro. Andrew W. Hamilton, W. M.
 " Mathew Burnie, S. W.
 R. " " John H. Graham, P. M.
 " " Timothy Leet, P. M.
- No. 68. *St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll, Ont.*
 V. W. Bro. Allan McLean, P. M.
- No. 69. *Stirling Lodge, Stirling, Ont.*
 W. Bro. Geo. E. Bull, W. M.
- No. 71. *Victoria Lodge, Sherbrooke, Que.*
 V. W. Bro. Daniel Thomas, P. M. and Proxy.
 R. " " Geo. H. Borlase, P. M.
- No. 72. *Alma Lodge, Galt, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. T. Matheson, (Proxy.)
 V. " " Otto Klotz, P. M.
 " " T. S. Fisher, P. M.
- No. 73. *St. James's Lodge, St. Marys, Ont.*
 Bro. D. H. Harrison, S. W.
 " D. T. McConnell, J. W.
- No. 75. *St. John's Lodge, Toronto, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. John Kerr, P. M. and Proxy.
 " " " A. DeGrassi, P. M.
- No. 76. *Oxford Lodge, Woodstock, Ont.*
 W. Bro. E. A. H. Fanquier, W. M.
 " John Matheson, S. W.

- No. 77. *Faithful Brethren Lodge, Lindsay, Ont.*
Bro. Adam Hudspeth, J. W.
- No. 78. *King Hiram Lodge, Tilsonburg, Ont.*
W. Bro. Thos. B. Bain, W. M.
- No. 79. *Simcoe Lodge, Bradford, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. M. H. Spencer, (Proxy.)
- No. 80. *Albion Lodge, Newbury, Ont.*
W. Bro. W. D. McGloghlon, (Proxy.)
- No. 81. *St. John's Lodge, Mount Brydges, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. Geo. Billington, W. M.
- No. 82. *St. John's Lodge, Paris, Ont.*
W. Bro. W. Winter, W. M.
" " W. S. Martin, P. M.
- No. 83. *Beaver Lodge, Strathroy, Ont.*
W. Bro. J. A. Sommerville, W. M.
- No. 85. *Rising Sun Lodge, Farmersville, Ont.*
W. Bro. Thomas Camm, (Proxy.)
- No. 86. *Wilson Lodge, Toronto, Ont.*
W. Bro. Robert Robinson, W. M.
- No. 87. *Markham Union Lodge, Markham, Ont.*
W. Bro. Donald McMurchy, W. M.
- No. 88. *St. George's Lodge, Owen Sound, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 90. *Manito Lodge, Collingwood, Ont.*
W. Bro. E. R. Carpenter, W. M.
V. " " Henry Robertson, P. M.
- No. 91. *Colborne Lodge, Colborne, Ont.*
W. Bro. J. D. Henderson, W. M.
" " C. R. Ford, P. M.
- No. 92. *Cataraqui Lodge, Kingston, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. Robert Hendry, Jun., W. M.
" Robert Nancollas, S. W.
R. " " John V. Noel, P. M.
" " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. M.
V. " " Henry Dumble, P. M.

- No. 93. *Northern Light Lodge, Kincardine, Ont.*
W. Bro. Ross Robertson, W. M.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Edgcombe, W. M.
- No. 96. *Corinthian Lodge, Barrie, Ont.*
W. Bro. R. King, W. M.
" Joseph Anderton, J. W.
- No. 97. *Sharon Lodge, Sharon, Ont.*
W. Bro. George R. Hogaboom, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 98. *True Blue Lodge, Albion, Ont.*
Bro. H. G. Summers, (Proxy.)
- No. 99. *Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. N. Allan Gamble, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 100. *Valley Lodge, Dundas, Ont.*
W. Bro. N. Greening, W. M.
- No. 101. *Corinthian Lodge, Peterboro', Ont.*
V. W. Bro. James Might, (Proxy.)
" " " John King, P. M.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines, Ont.*
W. Bro. George Groves, W. M.
R. " " James Seymour, P. M.
- No. 104. *St. John's Lodge, Norwichville, Ont.*
Bro. Wm. Coker, S. W.
- No. 105. *St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville, Ont.*
" W. Bro. John Bartle, P. M.
- No. 106. *Burford Lodge, Burford, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. Frederick Mudge, W. M.
- No. 107. *St. Paul's Lodge, Lambeth, Ont.*
W. Bro. W. D. McGloghlon, (Proxy.)
- No. 108. *Blenheim Lodge, Drumbo, Ont.*
W. Bro. D. L. Philip, (Proxy.)
- No. 109. *Albion Lodge, Harrowsmith, Ont.*
W. Bro. George Creggan, W. M.
" James McGinnis, S. W.
" " N. F. Dupuis, P. M.

- No. 110. *Central Lodge, Prescott, Ont.*
Bro. A. W. Ferguson, S. W.
W. " George En Earl, P. M.
- No. 112. *Maitland Lodge, Goderich, Ont.*
W. Bro. Ross Robertson, (Proxy.)
- No. 113. *Wilson Lodge, Waterford, Ont.*
W. Bro. A. J. Donly, (Proxy.)
- No. 114. *Hope Lodge, Port Hope, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. C. D. Macdonnell, (Proxy.)
- No. 117. *Stanbridge Lodge, Stanbridge, Que.*
W. Bro. C. A. Rice, W. M.
" " M. R. Meigs, P. M.
- No. 118. *Union Lodge, Lloydstown, Ont.*
Bro. H. G. Summers, S. W.
- No. 119. *Maple Leaf Lodge, Bath, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. B. C. Davy, W. M.
- No. 120. *Warren Lodge, Fingal, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Edgcombe, (Proxy.)
- No. 121. *Doric Lodge, Brantford, Ont.*
W. Bro. Samuel Hall, W. M.
- No. 122. *Renfrew Lodge, Renfrew, Ont.*
W. Bro. John J. Gemmill, (Proxy.)
- No. 123. *The Belleville Lodge, Belleville, Ont.*
W. Bro. Donald Bain, W. M.
" Alex. Webster, J. W.
V. " " John Taylor, P. M.
- No. 124. *Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, Montreal, Qué.*
W. Bro. John P. Peavey, W. M.
" John S. Barrie, S. W.
" James Gibson, J. W.
R. " " John Renshaw, P. M.
" " " Isaac Henry Stearns, P. M.
- No. 125. *Cornwall Lodge, Cornwall, Ont.*
W. Bro. P. B. Martin, W. M.
" " W. A. Whinton, S. W.
" " H. W. Weber, J. W.

- No. 127. *Franck Lodge, Frankford, Ont.*
 W. Bro. George E. Fraser, W. M.
 " John N. Lee, S. W.
- No. 129. *The Rising Sun Lodge, Aurora, Ont.*
 V. W. Bro. N. Allan Gamble, (Proxy.)
- No. 130. *Yamaska Lodge, Granby, Que.*
 W. Bro. Thomas Cox, W. M.
 " T. Amyrauld, J. W.
 " " John H. Bartlett, P. M.
- No. 131. *St. Lawrence Lodge, Southampton, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, (Proxy.)
- No. 133. *Lebanon Forest Lodge, Fraceston, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. Thomas Matheson, (Proxy.)
- No. 134. *Shawenegam Lodge, Three Rivers, Que.*
 W. Bro. T. Rickaby, W. M.
 " H. McKelvie, S. W.
 R. " " John Turner, P. M.
 " " John Broster, P. M.
 " " Thomas G. Farmer, P. M.
 " " Samuel McClung, P. M.
 " " James Reynar, P. M.
- No. 136. *Richardson Lodge, Stouffville, Ont.*
 V. W. Bro. James Bowman, W. M.
- No. 137. *Pythagoras Lodge, Meaford, Ont.*
 V. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, (Proxy.)
- No. 139. *Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa, Ont.*
 W. Bro. Silas B. Fairbanks, P. M. and Proxy.
 R. " " William McCabe, P. M.
 " " John Boyd, P. M.
- No. 140. *Malahide Lodge, Aylmer, Ont.*
 Bro. William Chisholm, (Proxy.)
- No. 141. *Tudor Lodge, Mitchell, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. T. Matheson, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 142. *Excelsior Lodge, Morrisburg, Ont.*
 W. Bro. T. F. Chamberlain, W. M.
 R. " " A. G. Macdonell, P. M.

- No. 143. *Friendly Brothers' Lodge, Iroquois, Ont.*
W. Bro. James Stevenson, W. M.
" " N. M. Davy, P. M.
- No. 144. *Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Moffat, (Proxy.)
- No. 145. *J. B. Hall Lodge, Millbrook, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. James Might, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 146. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Newbury, Ont.*
W. Bro. Thomas Scott, W. M.
- No. 147. *Mississippi Lodge, Almonte, Ont.*
W. Bro. Peter McDougall, W. M.
- No. 148. *Civil Service Lodge, Ottawa, Ont.*
W. Bro. E. P. Remon, W. M.
M. " " T. Douglas Harington, P. M.
- No. 149. *Erie Lodge, Port Dover, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. David Curtis, (Proxy.)
- No. 150. *Hastings Lodge, Hastings, Ont.*
W. Bro. James C. Brown, W. M.
- No. 152. *Clarenceville Lodge, Clarenceville, Que.*
W. Bro. C. S. Rowe, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 153. *Burn's Lodge, Wyoming, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Tracy, (Proxy.)
- No. 154. *Irving Lodge, Lucan, Ont.*
W. Bro. Edwin Patching, W. M.
- No. 155. *Peterborough Lodge, Peterboro', Ont.*
Bro. J. R. Ormand, S. W.
- No. 156. *York Lodge, Eglinton, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, (Proxy.)
- No. 157. *Simpson Lodge, Newboro', Ont.*
W. Bro. Thomas Camm, W. M.
- No. 158. *Alexandra Lodge, Oil Springs, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, (Proxy.)

- No. 160. *Quebec Garrison Lodge, Quebec, Que.*
R. W. Bro. Alex. Walker, (Proxy.)
- No. 162. *Forest Lodge, Wroxeter, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Moffat, W. M.
" Ralph Hodgson, S. W.
- No. 163. *Browne Lodge, West Farnham, Que.*
W. Bro. G. H. Kemp, W. M.
" " C. P. Taber, P. M.
- No. 164. *Star in the East Lodge, Wellington, Ont.*
W. Bro. William Cleminson, W. M.
- No. 166. *Wentworth Lodge, Stoney Creek, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, (Proxy.)
- No. 167. *Royal Albert Lodge, Montreal, Que.*
W. Bro. Henry M. Alexander, W. M.
" William Millar, S. W.
" James J. Barnard, J. W.
" " Frank Edgar, P. M.
- No. 168. *Merritt Lodge, Welland, Ont.*
Bro. Samuel E. Hopkins, S. W.
- No. 169. *Maenab Lodge, Port Colborne, Ont.*
Bro. James R. Haun, S. W.
- No. 170. *Britannia Lodge, Seaforth, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Moffat, (Proxy.)
- No. 171. *Prince of Wales Lodge, Iona, Ont.*
W. Bro. John Edgcombe, W. M.
" William Chisholm, S. W.
" " J. Cascaden, P. M.
- No. 172. *Ayr Lodge, Ayr, Ont.*
W. Bro. T. S. Fisher, (Proxy.)
- No. 173. *Victoria Lodge, Montreal, Que.*
W. Bro. H. J. Gear, W. M.
" J. T. McMin, S. W.
" Robert B. Murray, J. W.
R. " " Alex. Murray, P. M.
" " " Richard Bull, P. M.
V. " " George A. Pearce, G. O.

- No. 174. *Walsingham Lodge, Port Rowan, Ont.*
W. Bro. Chauncey Bennett, W. M.
- No. 175. *Saint John's Lodge, Mansonville, Que.*
Bro. C. C. Perkins, S. W.
" C. S. Stearns, J. W.
- No. 176. *Spartan Lodge, Sparta, Ont.*
Bro. William Chisholm, (Proxy.)
- No. 177. *The Builders' Lodge, Ottawa, Ont.*
W. Bro. T. W. Currier, W. M.
- No. 178. *Plattsville Lodge, Plattsville, Ont.*
W. Bro. D. L. Philip, W. M.
- No. 179. *Bothwell Lodge, Bothwell, Ont.*
W. Bro. W. D. McGlohlon, (Proxy.)
- No. 180. *Speed Lodge, Guelph, Ont.*
W. Bro. Charles Sharpe, W. M.
V. " " J. M. Dunn, P. M.
- No. 181. *Oriental Lodge, Port Burwell, Ont.*
W. Bro. S. Leybourne, W. M.
- No. 182. *Tuscan Lodge, Levis, Que.*
W. Bro. John Breakey, P. M.
- No. 183. *Prince Albert Lodge, Prince Albert, Ont.*
W. Bro. James Emaney, W. M.
- No. 184. *Old Light Lodge, Lucknow, Ont.*
W. Bro. Ross Robertson, (Proxy.)
- No. 185. *Enniskillen Lodge, York, Ont.*
W. Bro. Joseph Hurssell, (Proxy.)
- No. 186. *Plantagenet Lodge, Plantagenet, Ont.*
W. Bro. Henry Smith, W. M.
" John Ryan, J. W.
- No. 187. *Royal Canadian Lodge, Sweetsburg, Que.*
W. Bro. E. Racicot, W. M.
" C. H. Boright, S. W.
" H. N. Pickel, J. W.
" " H. D. Pickel, P. M.

- No. 188. *Ascot Lodge, Lennoxville, Que.*
 Bro. Thomas B. Harris, S. W.
 " D. T. Robertson, J. W.
 R. W. " J. Henry Stearns, P. M.
 " " Thomas Milton, P. M.
- No. 189. *Filius Viduæ Lodge, Adolphustown, Ont.*
 W. Bro. E. H. Smith, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 191. *Ashlar Lodge, Coaticook, Que.*
 Bro. Wright Sleeper, S. W.
- No. 192. *Orillia Lodge, Orillia, Ont.*
 W. Bro. E. R. Carpenter, (Proxy).
- No. 193. *Scotland Lodge, Scotland, Ont.*
 V. W. Bro. Frederick Mudge, W. M.
- No. 194. *Petrolia Lodge, Petrolia, Ont.*
 W. Bro. John Tracy, W. M.
- No. 195. *Tuscan Lodge, London, Ont.*
 W. Bro. H. Waterman, (Proxy.)
- No. 196. *Madawaska Lodge, Arnprior, Ont.*
 W. Bro. E. P. Remon, (Proxy.)
 " " John Munro, P. M.
- No. 198. *White Oak Lodge, Oakville, Ont.*
 R. W. Bro. Thos. B. Harris, (Proxy.)
- No. 199. *Freligsburgh Lodge, Freligsburgh, Que.*
 W. Bro. G. R. Marvin, W. M.
 " E. H. Goff, S. W.
- No. 200. *St. Alban's Lodge, Mount Forest, Ont.*
 W. Bro. W. W. Winfield, P. M.
- No. 201. *Leeds Lodge, Gananoque, Ont.*
 W. Bro. Wm. Byers, Jun., W. M.
- No. 202. *Mount Royal Lodge, Montreal, Que.*
 W. Bro. Charles Storer, W. M.
 " W. M. Somerville, S. W.
 " " Alex. Watson, J. W.
 R. " " " Isaac Henry Stearns, P. M.

- No. 203. *Irvine Lodge, Elora, Ont.*
V. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, (Proxy.)
- No. 204. *Doric Lodge, Danville, Que.*
W. Bro. Timothy Leet, W. M.
" Joshua S. Snow, S. W.
- No. 205. *New Dominion Lodge, New Hamburg, Ont.*
W. Bro. D. L. Philip, (Proxy.)

UNDER DISPENSATION.

- Lancaster Lodge, Lancaster, Ont.*
W. Bro. J. P. Peavey, W. M.
- Chateauguay Lodge, Huntingdon, Que.*
Bro. Daniel Boyd, S. W.
- Evergreen Lodge, Lanark, Ont.*
Bro. Thomas Watchen, J. W.
- Hawkesbury Lodge, Hawkesbury, Ont.*
W. Bro. Henry Smith, (Proxy.)
- Brome Lake Lodge, Knowlton, Que.*
W. Bro. H. D. Pickel, W. M.
- Elysian Lodge, Garden Island, Ont.*
W. Bro. A. Malone, W. M.
- Dominion Lodge, Ridgeway, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. John Parry, (Proxy.)
- Craig Lodge, Ailsa Craig, Ont.*
W. Bro. Edwin Patching, (Proxy.)
- Harris Lodge, Orangeville, Ont.*
Bro. H. G. Summers, (Proxy.)
- Frederick Lodge, Fredericksburg, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. David Curtis, (Proxy.)

On motion, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master granted permission for the admittance of all Master Masons in good standing.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, and

RESOLVED,—That the minutes of the proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Thirteenth Annual Communication, held at the City of London, on the 8th, 9th and 10th days of July, A. D. 1868, having been printed and copies thereof sent to the Lodges, the same be considered read and now confirmed.

The Grand Secretary read the minutes of a Special Communication of Grand Lodge, held in the City of Kingston, Ont., on the 20th day of October, A. D. 1868, convened for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a new Building in the Market Square, which were

On motion of R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. John H. Graham, confirmed.

As likewise were read the minutes of a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, convened at the City of Hamilton, Ont., on the 1st day of July, A. D. 1869, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of St. Thomas Church with Masonic ceremonies; which were

On motion of R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, confirmed.

The Most W. Grand Master delivered the following address to the Brethren in Grand Lodge assembled:

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA:

Having been permitted by the good providence of God to meet again in Grand Lodge, it is fitting and appropriate that we make it our first duty to acknowledge with devout gratitude the merciful care of the Almighty Architect and Supreme Governor of the Universe, who has throughout another year surrounded us with the shelter of his divine protection, and

has enabled the representatives of the Lodges within this jurisdiction, to assemble once more in fraternal concord, to participate in the deliberations of this annual communication of Grand Lodge.

In introducing the business of this session there are several topics which it will be proper for me to submit for the consideration of Grand Lodge, but in discharging that duty, I will endeavour not to trespass unnecessarily upon your valuable time, feeling inclined rather to lay myself open to blame for unusual brevity than for undue prolixity.

It was my intention to have visited during the winter months, one or more of the lodges in each of the various Districts within our jurisdiction, but the words of the immortal bard hold true still, that "the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft agee;" so from various circumstances, chiefly, however, from the unparalleled succession of snow-storms which occurred early this year, and the consequent uncertainty of railway travel and other means of conveyance, I was unable to carry out that design, except to a very limited extent.

It is to me a source of great pleasure to be able to congratulate you upon the flourishing and prosperous condition of our ancient and honorable fraternity. At no previous period in our history were its prospects so encouraging as at the present time. Very full and interesting information regarding the state of our lodges, is conveyed in the able reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters for the various Districts; and the report of the Board of General Purposes, with the Grand Treasurer's statements, will exhibit our financial affairs in a very favourable light.

During the year I granted dispensations for opening the following new lodges, viz:—

North Gower	Lodge, North Gower, Ont.
Lancaster	" Lancaster, Ont.
Chateauguay	" Huntingdon, Que.
Evergreen	" Lanark, Ont.

Hawkesbury	Lodge, Hawkesbury, Ont.
Brome Lake	“ Knowlton, Que.
Elysian	“ Garden Island, Ont.
Dominion	“ Ridgeway, Ont.
Craig	“ Ailsa Craig, Ont.
Lake	“ Roblin's Mills, Ont.
Harris	“ Orangeville, Ont.
Frederick	“ Fredericksburg, Ont.

The petitions were strongly recommended, and in each case a certificate was appended, either from the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, or from a competent Past Master that the Worshipful Master elect was capable of conferring the degrees, according to the established mode. I trust that they have performed their work, and transacted their business, in such a manner as will enable the Grand Lodge to order the issue of the usual Warrants of confirmation.

Two special communications of Grand Lodge were convened during the year. The first was held at the City of Kingston, on the 20th October, 1868, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall, which ceremony was most ably performed by M. W. Bro. Simpson, P. G. M. The second was held at the City of Hamilton, on Dominion Day, 1869, when I had the honor of laying the foundation stone of St. Thomas Church.

The ordinary Masonic transactions of the year have not been varied greatly from the routine of preceding years. There have been submitted for my opinion and decision, a large number of questions, which I do not deem it necessary to mention in detail here, as my Letter Book is open during the session of Grand Lodge to all who may desire to examine it. One or two points, however, it may be well to allude to. I have felt it my duty to decline acceding to all applications for dispensations to initiate into Freemasonry persons physically disqualified, for the reason, which I hope will commend itself to your judgment, that when once the line is passed, it is utterly impossible to discriminate between the

admissible and the non-admissible; and I have felt it to be a safe course, and one sure to result in good to the fraternity, to refuse all petitions of that nature.

From various parts of our jurisdiction, I have learned with great regret that the ambition of some of our brethren, in regard to obtaining Lodge offices, seems to have outrun their discretion. In several instances this has been carried so far as to result in the formation of two or more parties in a Lodge, and under the eagerness and excitement which such a state of things invariably produces, open canvassing for office has been actually resorted to. Brethren, this is an evil of great magnitude, fraught with most disastrous consequences, and it ought not to be tolerated either in private Lodges or in Grand Lodge. To be elected to a prominent position in the Craft is doubtless an honor to which all deserving and duly qualified brethren may aspire; yet it ought always to be remembered that merit and ability alone are the true grounds of preferment among Masons, and it is most unseemly that anything like electioneering for office should ever be attempted. It is to be hoped that in future every brother will denounce and discountenance such proceedings by every means in his power. The most effectual mode of securing the complete abolishment of this evil practice will be for every brother, when approached in that way, to cast his vote *against*, instead of *for*, the party who resorts to such improper methods for the purpose of obtaining office.

The remarkable ability at all times displayed by the R. W. Grand Secretary; his promptitude and fidelity, together with the untiring zeal he invariably manifests in promoting the best interests of the fraternity, entitle him to your warmest gratitude, and a renewal of that confidence which has been extended to him during the many years he has so worthily filled his important office. The same remarks will equally apply to the R. W. Grand Treasurer, who has so faithfully discharged the duties of his responsible position to the entire satisfaction of Grand Lodge.

During the year, I have made arrangements for an

exchange of representatives with several sister Grand Lodges and have accredited the following brethren as the representatives of the Grand Lodge of Canada, viz:—

R. W. Bro. Geo. S. Blackie, of Nashville, in the Grand Lodge of Tennessee; R. W. Bro. John V. Ellis, St. John, N. B., in the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick; and R. W. Bro. James Cunningham Batchelor, New Orleans, in the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

I have great pleasure in recommending that the rank of P. G. Senior Warden of this Grand Lodge, be conferred upon our representative in the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

From a very early period in the history of our Grand Lodge, the question of the establishment of a Masonic Asylum has largely occupied the attention of our Lodges and brethren. A special committee, consisting of some of the most influential and talented members of Grand Lodge, has been annually appointed to mature a practicable scheme, and notwithstanding the efforts they have put forth from time to time, the state of that question, at the present day, irresistably forces upon the mind the inquiry, whether an asylum such as that proposed would be calculated to relieve the existing distress so effectually as the system now in operation.

It does seem to be a doubtful question, whether the expenditure necessary for the erection and maintenance of such an institution would be justifiable under present circumstances. There appears to be a very general opinion prevailing that the great majority of applicants for Grand Lodge benevolence, would much prefer accepting even a small annual grant, which would be expended in maintaining themselves amongst their own relatives or acquaintances, rather than seek for admission to an asylum, which would be considered, (no matter how unjustly,) as partaking of the nature of a pauper institution; and it must be well known to you all, that in this country, amongst every class of the community, there exists a decided feeling of aversion to anything partaking of that character. The uncertainty which seems to

have surrounded the asylum project, leads me to suggest for your consideration whether it would not be better to relinquish for the present the realization of that scheme, and to devote our means and energies towards the establishment of a much needed institution for the support and education of the children and orphans of the fraternity, and others who might prefer to avail themselves of its advantages, under regulations which Grand Lodge might see fit to adopt. A Freemasons' School, organized on a proper basis, would, no doubt, enlist the sympathy and support of the Lodges generally, and might be so managed as to entail a very slight tax upon the funds of Grand Lodge, if indeed it might not be made altogether self-supporting. I commend this matter to your earnest consideration.

It will be within the recollection of many now present, that when Grand Lodge met in this city three years ago, an application for recognition was received from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, then recently organized; after due deliberation the application was favorably entertained, and recognition accorded by the Grand Lodge of Canada. At that period considerable difference of opinion existed amongst the fraternity in that Province, regarding the expediency of organizing an independent Grand Lodge in Nova Scotia, and consequently a majority of the Lodges continued their allegiance to those Grand Lodges from whom their warrants were derived. Efforts have been made from time to time, to effect a union of the Craft there; and I feel certain that the members of this Grand Lodge will rejoice to learn that this has at last been satisfactorily accomplished on a basis similar in many respects to the union which took place in Canada in 1858, every Lodge in that Province (except one a military Lodge) being now enrolled under the banner of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. Early in last month I received an invitation from the joint committee on Union, and also from that venerable brother, the Hon. Alex. Keith, who has for a long period of years presided over the English Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia—to proceed to Halifax and install the Grand Master elect.

Duly appreciating the honor intended to be conferred upon this Grand Lodge, through that invitation, I did not feel at liberty to decline its acceptance. On arriving at Halifax, on the 23rd ult., in company with M. W. Bro. Bernard, P. G. M., of Montreal, and M. W. Bro. B. L. Peters, G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, we received a most cordial and fraternal welcome from R. W. Bro. Keith and other brethren. The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and the District Grand Lodge, both met on that day for the transaction of business prior to the Union, which was consummated the same evening in a manner which reflects the greatest credit upon all concerned. On the 24th I had the honor of installing the new Grand Master, (M. W. Bro. Keith,) and other Grand Officers. Immediately after the installation, the members of Grand Lodge and other brethren, (numbering in all about 600,) marched in procession to St. Paul's Church, where a most admirable and eloquent discourse was delivered by R. W. Bro. the Rev. D. C. Moore, Grand Chaplain, who selected as his text those singularly appropriate words: "Let brotherly love continue." In the evening a banquet was held, at which there were nearly six hundred present. Our visit was a most delightful one to us, and we hope that it may be the means of opening up Masonic intercourse, and of uniting together more closely than heretofore the Masons of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick with those of Ontario and Quebec. To M. W. Bro. Keith our fraternal acknowledgments are justly due for the princely hospitality extended to M. W. Bro. Bernard and myself, at his own magnificent mansion, during our agreeable sojourn in the City of Halifax.

Many other events of interest to us, which have transpired during the year, might with propriety be alluded to here. Such as, for instance, the admission into the Masonic Fraternity of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, our future (though we hope far distant) Sovereign, and the enlargement of the boundaries of the Dominion of Canada, extending now from sea to sea, and fixing more firmly the foundations of a common nationality amongst the people

inhabiting the vast territory embraced between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; but the consideration of these and all other matters of a kindred nature must be postponed, in view of the fact that there is one subject requiring immediate attention, which possesses for us, as a Grand Lodge, a far deeper interest and importance, namely the unsatisfactory and anomalous position we occupy as a supreme governing Masonic body, having no control whatever over a considerable number of lodges, still existing in Canada under the authority of other Grand Lodges, although within *our* territorial jurisdiction. I do not deem it expedient to refer at present to the reasons which led to such an undesirable state of affairs, nor to any difficulties or misunderstandings which have arisen in consequence thereof. My desire is to find out whether it be not possible now to approach the Brethren of these Lodges who yet hold aloof from us, in such a way as may lead to a solution of these differences which have hitherto kept us apart, and secure the consolidation of all the lodges within this jurisdiction in one common Canadian Brotherhood. I am led to believe that there exists at present a very strong desire for *union* on the part of many of the officers and members of those lodges, and I am given to understand that any pacific propositions which this Grand Lodge might see fit to make, would receive their earnest and fraternal consideration. I would therefore warmly recommend the appointment of a special committee to open negotiations with these brethren for the attainment of the object already indicated; and I urge this the more from the conviction I entertain that unless something is speedily done in this direction the very existence of this Grand Lodge as at present constituted, will be seriously imperiled. This vitally important question will not admit of delay, and therefore no time should be lost in adopting this or some other method for bringing about this most desirable object.

Having thus stated my views in regard to the various matters, to which I deemed it advisable to advert, it only remains for me to express a hope that you will give to every question submitted to Grand Lodge a patient and careful

consideration, and that in all your deliberations you may be led to such conclusions as will be productive of beneficial results to the fraternity, of which we have the honor of being accounted members, so that on your return to your respective places of abode, you may be able to look back with feelings of satisfaction and pleasure to the profitable work accomplished at this communication of Grand Lodge.

A. A. STEVENSON,

Grand Master.

MONTREAL, 14th July, 1869.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Seymour, seconded by M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, and

RESOLVED, That the address of the M. W. Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes, to report thereon during the present Communication of Grand Lodge.

Letters expressing regret for unavoidable absence from Grand Lodge were read from R. W. Bro. Sir John A. Macdonald, K. C. B., the Representative of the United Grand Lodge of England; the Grand Senior Warden, and the Grand Chaplain.

A letter was read from the Superintendent of the Mechanics' Institute, tendering to the Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge a cordial welcome to the reading-room and library in connection with that Institution.

W. Bro. James C. Brown, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. Milne, submitted the following resolution:—

That the reports of the D. D. Grand Masters, from the various Districts, be considered read, and at once referred to the Board of General Purposes.

The resolution, after some discussion, was withdrawn.

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In complying with the requirements of Grand Lodge, I beg to submit a brief report of Masonry in the London District.

Through unavoidable circumstances I have been prevented from visiting all the lodges in this District, but those visited are in a prosperous condition, and working according to the system adopted by Grand Lodge.

The few trivial complaints referred to me as D. D. G. M. have, so far as I am aware, been all satisfactorily adjusted.

I recommended the application for a new lodge at Ailsa Craig, to be called "Craig" Lodge; which recommendation the M. W. Grand Master has been pleased to entertain, and authorized the issuing of a dispensation for the same.

It has pleased the G. A. O. T. U. to remove during the past year, by death, two esteemed brethren—Bro. Noakes, of Wellington Lodge, No. 46, and Bro. Kirby, of Beaver Lodge, No. 83. Both were buried with masonic honors.

I granted a dispensation to the brethren of Bothwell Lodge, No. 179, to appear in Masonic clothing at a Concert, given by the brethren on St. John the Evangelist's day.

In closing this brief report, I would acknowledge the uniform kindness and courtesy received from all the brethren while in the discharge of my duties in this District.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN E. BROOKE,
D. D. G. M., London District.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—According to the requirements of the Constitution, I beg to submit the following brief report on the condition of Masonry in the District under my charge.

There are now twenty-one lodges in the Huron District, viz;—

1. Alma	Lodge No. 72, Galt.
2. St. James	“ “ 73, St. Mary's.
3. Clinton	“ “ 84, Clinton.
4. Northern Light	“ “ 93, Kincardine.
5. Maitland	“ “ 112, Goderich.
6. St. Lawrence	“ “ 131, Southampton.
7. Lebanon Forest	“ “ 133, Franceston.
8. Tudor	“ “ 141, Mitchell.
9. Tecumseh	“ “ 144, Stratford.
10. The Grand River	“ “ 151, Berlin.
11. Irving	“ “ 154, Lucan.
12. Forest	“ “ 162, Wroxeter.
13. Britannia	“ “ 170, Seaforth.
14. Ayr	“ “ 172, Ayr.
15. Speed	“ “ 180, Guelph.
16. Old Light	“ “ 184, Lucknow.
17. Saugeen	“ “ 197, Walkerton.
18. St. Alban's	“ “ 200, Mount Forest.
19. Irvine	“ “ 203, Elora.
20. New Dominion	“ “ 205, New Hamburg.
21. Harris	“ U. D. Orangeville.

The last four numbered Lodges received their Warrants at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and have since been properly constituted—“New Dominion” by R. W. Bros. Kahn and Dutton, P. D. D. G. Ms., and V. W. Bro. Thos. Winter, and “Irvine” and “St. Alban's” by R. W. Bro. Seymour, D. G. M., R. W. Bro. Harris, G. Sec'y,

V. W. Bro. Klotz, and other prominent brethren. All, I am pleased to report, are in a prosperous condition.

On the 21st June I received a petition from several brethren in Orangeville, requesting a dispensation for a new lodge to be organized at that place. The petition was accompanied with a certificate of qualification in favor of the proposed W. M. from R. W. Bro. Spry, and the W. M. of King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto, and also a recommendation from Irvine Lodge, Elora. I had no opportunity of seeing the W. M. myself, owing to the long distance from my residence; but, on account of the strong recommendations referred to, I felt justified in forwarding the petition to the M. W. the Grand Master, who was pleased to grant a dispensation.

Through sickness, and other causes not under my control, I was unable to visit the whole of the other lodges; but those I have visited are enjoying a good degree of substantial prosperity; and there seems to be an increasing desire for Masonic knowledge.

The only death reported to me was that of Bro. David Connel, of Alma Lodge, Galt, who died 17th Sept., 1868, aged 57 years. The brethren of that lodge accompanied his remains to their last resting place.

Three cases of unmasonic conduct were reported to me: Two from Tudor Lodge, and one from St. James' Lodge, St. Mary's. The papers will be laid before you, to be dealt with as the circumstances of each case may require.

I issued three dispensations during the year: One to St. James' Lodge, St. Mary's, on the occasion of the dedication of their new Hall; one to New Dominion Lodge, and one to St. Alban's Lodge, in honor of their consecration.

A petition from Tudor Lodge praying for aid for Bro. John Davidson, a member of that lodge, who is in destitute circumstances, will be laid before you, and I hope its prayer will be granted, that the poor brother may receive some of the comforts of life in his old age.

This District being so large, and the lodges therein now so numerous, I would recommend the Counties of Waterloo and Wellington to be formed into a new District, to be called the "Waterloo District."

With sincere thanks to the brethren of the District for kindness received from them, I return into their hands the important trust committed to me.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS MATHESON,
D. D. G. M., Huron District.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of the Craft in the Hamilton District :—

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

After visiting the various lodges throughout the district, it is with great pleasure that I report all to be in a very favorable condition, and from the statements made by the Worshipful Masters and others, I can say that, as regards numbers, materials and finances, the lodges are all in a very flourishing and promising state.

I am happy to inform Grand Lodge that every effort is being made to work in accordance with the adopted ritual, as exemplified on the floor of Grand Lodge at London at its last annual communication.

With reference to the gold jewels of Barton Lodge, No. 6, authorized last July, I have pleasure in stating that the lodge is now in possession of them, and that they give general satisfaction to each individual member. I may also

add, that although the expense of procuring these jewels has been great, yet the lodge is in a good financial position.

COMPLAINTS.

There have been a number of complaints laid before me during the past year; and several of the matters in dispute were of long standing. It gives me great pleasure to state that all existing differences have been amicably arranged, to the satisfaction of the parties concerned.

NEW LODGES.

In reporting the formation of a new Lodge at Ridgeway, under the name of "Dominion" Lodge, for which a dispensation was issued by the most Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I take pleasure in referring to the opening of the same, on the 24th of June last, by the Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Seymour, assisted by myself and several zealous members of the fraternity. The lodge is neatly furnished with carpets, seats, lamps, &c., &c., and possesses a complete set of jewels and working tools, all of good quality, the expense of procuring which has been defrayed by subscriptions of the members, leaving the lodge at its commencement entirely free from debt. The minute book and records are in a good state; and it is with pleasure I recommend that a warrant be granted.

I also received an application from several members of the Craft residing in Georgetown, praying for a dispensation to form a lodge at that place. Before recommending the same, I wished, in accordance with the requirements of Grand Lodge, to be satisfied as to the ability of the Worshipful Master named in the petition, to work the three degrees of symbolic Masonry; and also of his capabilities of ruling and governing a lodge. Being unable to examine him personally, I appointed W. Bro. Watson, of St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, to do so and report to me at his earliest convenience. On receipt of W. Bro. Watson's report, I found the brother selected as the first W. M. of the new lodge to be quite unskilled in the work of the first degree. With

respect to the 2nd and 3rd degrees, he refused to be examined in them, alleging "that he did not think he could work them." Such being the case I did not feel justified in recommending the petition.

PRESENTATIONS.

I am gratified to say that there have been two presentations of Masonic Jewels to W. Masters of Lodges during the past year: One to V. W. Bro. E. Mitchell, W. M. of Acacia Lodge, No. 61, Hamilton; the other to W. Bro. Oille, W. M. of St. George's Lodge, No. 15, St. Catharines. I had the gratification of being present on both those interesting occasions, and was much gratified to witness the fraternal and harmonious feelings which prevailed between the officers and brethren.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted one dispensation to wear masonic regalia in public, during the past year, which was on the occasion of St. George's Lodge, No. 15, holding their annual festival on St. John the Baptist's Day. I also granted permission for Rev. Bro. Wm. Stephenson to deliver a lecture on the "Mysteries of Freemasonry," at the Village of Welland. This I did at the request of the W. M. and brethren of Merritt Lodge, No. 168. But I regret to add that circumstances have since transpired, owing to domestic affliction in the family of the esteemed lecturer, that will deprive the Welland brethren of the instruction anticipated from the lecture, by causing an indefinite postponement.

OBITUARY.

The number who have been removed from us by the hand of death is small, being only four, viz: R. W. Bro. W. Fitch, of Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby; Bro. Barnabas Fralick, of St. Mark's Lodge, No. 105, Drummondville; Bro. George Castleman, of Niagara Lodge, No. 2, Niagara, and Bro. Wm. Maxwell, of St. John's Lodge, No. 35, Cayuga. R. W. Bro. Fitch formerly held the high and honorable office of D.D.G.M. of the Hamilton District, and was one of the most zealous

and faithful masons in the Province. All those brethren were interred by the Craft with the usual Masonic ceremonies.

In conclusion, I would take this opportunity of thanking the brethren for the truly Masonic and fraternal welcome extended to me when visiting the various lodges in the district, as well as for the kindness and courtesy which I have received at their hands on all occasions.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN PARRY,

D. D. G. M. Hamilton District.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In conformity with the requirements of the Constitution, I respectfully beg leave to submit my report as D. D. G. M. of Toronto District, for the year 1868-9.

Believing that it would be injudicious and unnecessary on my part to take up the time of Grand Lodge with a long and minute report, I shall endeavour to give a synopsis of the state of Masonry in my district, in as few words as possible.

I regret that circumstances, over which I had no control, prevented me from visiting all the lodges in the district; but from observation of the lodges visited, and correspondence with most of those which I have not been able to visit personally, I am happy to state that Masonry is in a most prosperous condition in this district.

With reference to certain charges made by The Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora, against Richmond Lodge, No. 23, Richmond Hill, I may state that after considerable correspondence with brethren who were conversant with the case, I visited Richmond Lodge on the 14th Dec., when the W.

Master produced satisfactory evidence that the whole matter had been considered, and properly dealt with, by my predecessor, the late R. W. Bro. E. A. Walker.

In regard to the Warrant and other property belonging to Western Light Lodge, Bolton, after much trouble I traced the property to W. Bro. Geo. Evans, P. M. of said lodge; upon whom I waited at Bolton Village, and he refused to give me any satisfaction in the premises. I therefore placed the matter in the hands of the M. W. the Grand Master.

I have granted the following dispensations during the year:--

To Manito Lodge, No. 90, Collingwood, to have an excursion to McGregor's Harbour, Sept. 1st.

To Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto, for an excursion to Hamilton, Aug. 27th.

To Pythagoras Lodge, No. 137, Meaford, for an excursion to Penetanguishene, Sept. 14th.

To St. George's Lodge, No. 88, Owen Sound, for an excursion to McGregor's Harbour, June 24th, 1869.

To Corinthian Lodge, No. 96, Barrie, for an excursion to Orillia, June 24th, 1869.

To Pythagoras Lodge, No. 137, Meaford, for an excursion July 1st, 1869.

I have had a petition from several brethren for a dispensation to open a new Lodge in the City of Toronto, to be called the "Stevenson" Lodge, which petition I have recommended to the M. W. the Grand Master for approval.

Death—that fell leveler of all earthly distinctions—has this year been busy in our ranks, and has marked for his own several old and respected brethren in this district. The following have been reported to me: Bro. Wm. B. Wooding, Manito Lodge; V. W. Bro. Col. David Bridgford, Richmond Lodge, No. 23; W. Bro. Solomon Stogdill, Union Lodge, No. 118, Lloydtown; V. W. Bro. Wm. Graham, W. M. True Blue Lodge, Bolton Village; Bro. Thos. Fargues Symes, Pythagoras Lodge, Meaford; W. Bro. Joseph

W. Parker, P. M. St. George's Lodge, Owen Sound; Bro. Geo. W. Burton, Corinthian Lodge, Barrie. The above named brethren were all buried with Masonic ceremonies.

In conclusion, M. W. Sir, I beg to thank yourself and R. W. Bro. Harris, G. Sec'y, for the courteous and prompt attention to all my communications during the past year.

All which is respectfully submitted.

M. H. SPENCER,
D. D. G. M. Toronto District.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—I have the honor to present to Grand Lodge this second annual report, containing a brief statement of the condition of Freemasonry in the Ontario District.

During the year I visited every lodge in this large and extended district, and I am glad to be able to report a very general and marked improvement on the part of the officers and membership in zeal, work, interest and efficiency. In all the lodges there exists an earnest desire, on the part of the members generally, to obtain more light as to the symbolic teachings and principles of our excellent Order.

I am happy to report that several of the W. Masters devote a portion of each regular meeting to an explanation of the symbolism of the Order, and the delivery of suitable essays and lectures upon the tenets of Freemasonry. In this connection, W. Bro. James D. Henderson, W. M. of Colborne Lodge, deserves especial mention and commendation for the attention he has given to this important part of the work of the lodge. Such an excellent practice cannot be over estimated. It renders our meetings intellectual; makes them a source from which the brethren derive valuable instruction, leads to the cultivation of the great moral

virtues, which are laid down on our Masonic Tracing Board, and tends to improvement in everything that is good, amiable and useful.

The greatest harmony and brotherly feeling continue to prevail throughout the district, and at no former period, within my recollection, has Freemasonry in the Ontario District been so prosperous or its future so encouraging.

I again recommend that a general regulation be adopted by Grand Lodge, that no Master be installed hereafter until he obtains a certificate from the G. M., or some qualified Grand Lodge officer, to be named by the G. M., that he is familiar with the work and lectures adopted by this Grand Lodge, and that he is competent to practice and impart the same, as is now required from the W. M. nominated in the petition for a new lodge. For the guidance of Masters and the general information of the Craft, I would also recommend that a digest of the decisions upon constitutional and other Masonic questions, made each year, be appended to the annual proceedings.

KING HIRAM LODGE, LINDSAY.

The application of certain members of the late King Hiram Lodge, of Lindsay, praying Grand Lodge to resuscitate the same, having been referred to me by Grand Lodge at its last annual session, to take such action as might be thought best for the general interests of the Craft. I addressed a letter, on the 29th of August last, to the brother who had brought the matter before the Grand Lodge on behalf of those interested, requesting him to furnish me with a statement signed by those represented by him, setting out, firstly, the necessity or advisability of having two Masonic lodges in Lindsay, a town having a population of less than 3000; secondly, the insufficiency of the lodge now in active operation there to meet the Masonic wants of the place; and, thirdly, such further information upon the subject as he and they might think proper to offer.

The answer sent to this communication not having proved

satisfactory, I requested that the brethren interested, and also the members of Faithful Brethren Lodge, (in successful operation there,) be summoned to meet me in the lodge room of the latter on the 8th of January last.

It was ascertained at this meeting, that the majority of those who sought for the resuscitation of King Hiram Lodge never belonged to it, and therefore had no equitable or other claim to its property; that several of the petitioners resided at a great distance from Lindsay; that an active personal canvass had been made to secure to the petition the names of all brethren for miles around; that the petitioners hailed from ten different lodges; and that one, described as belonging to St. John's Lodge, No. 13, Ohio, was, seemingly, unknown to all present, although the great majority of the petitioners were in attendance; that several had been suspended for non-payment of dues, and were not, therefore, likely to prove very useful members: that several had been misled, and at the meeting requested to withdraw their names from the petition; and that one had been suspended for grossly immoral and unmasonic conduct, the motion for such suspension being seconded by one of the petitioners, who had been most active in the present movement. It also appeared that the members, at the time of the closing of the lodge, allowed this to be done although the lodge was greatly in debt, and by such action discredit was brought upon the Craft. It further appeared that not one member of the late King Hiram Lodge, now seeking its resuscitation, had visited or sought for admission into Faithful Brethren Lodge.

The petitioners, members of the late King Hiram Lodge, having allowed it to become closed under such discreditable circumstances, permitted it to remain closed, and never made thereafter the first effort in the cause, until after a few members of the, then dormant, Faithful Brethren Lodge, formerly held at Oakwood, (having in the meantime removed to Lindsay,) had reopened their lodge at that place under the direction and sanction of Grand Lodge. The members of this lodge therefore feel, and I think they do so justly, that to them has been entrusted the welfare of the Order

in that place and its vicinity. Their lodge is now working in the town of Lindsay, under a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Canada; is in the occupation of suitable rooms; has all the necessary jewels and furniture, and is conducted with efficiency and in a Masonic manner. They are disposed to extend the right hand of fellowship to all worthy masons; they have not refused the application of any member in good standing, and they are quite willing and anxious to receive members of the late King Hiram Lodge, who are worthy.

They have succeeded in supplying, at much personal inconvenience and expense, what has been very much needed in Lindsay for the past six years—a good lodge in working order; and they have hitherto been actuated in their intercourse with the members of the late King Hiram Lodge by true masonic feeling. They also feel that in a town of less than 3000 inhabitants, the existence of two lodges would create a desire for a larger membership, and as a consequence unworthy persons might be admitted; and they fear also that jealousies, inconsistent with masonic harmony, would arise.

Having heard both parties at great length, in conclusion, I stated that, in my opinion, the members of King Hiram Lodge, who alone had any claim upon Grand Lodge for the restoration of its books, warrant and jewels, had by their indifference and negligence forfeited such claim, by allowing their lodge to become closed under discreditable circumstances; by leaving their territory neglected and unoccupied and by permitting it to be transferred without action or protest, to Faithful Brethren Lodge; and that it was not even pretended that the lodge then in active and successful operation in their midst, was not discharging its functions creditably, efficiently and masonically. I strongly urged them, instead of holding themselves aloof from Faithful Brethren Lodge, to connect themselves with it, or at least to give it a fair trial.

In consequence of the several considerations set out in the

premises, I recommend that the application for the resuscitation of King Hiram Lodge, referred to me by Grand Lodge, be not complied with; and that the important trust committed to Faithful Brethren Lodge by Grand Lodge be not interfered with or endangered, until it proves unable or unwilling to discharge with credit to the Order, and for the welfare of the Craft, the duties which have been entrusted to it by Grand Lodge.

DISPENSATIONS AND FESTIVALS.

Several dispensations were granted during the year, to enable lodges to wear masonic clothing at the annual festivals, which were duly reported to the Grand Secretary. One was also issued by the M. W. the Grand Master to authorize the members of Composite Lodge, Whitby, to appear in the badges of the Order at their annual festival, held this year on the 9th of February last. This celebration passed off with the usual *clat*, and with credit to its promoters and honor to the Craft.

DISTRICT REGALIA.

The lodges in the district have complied with the recommendation of Grand Lodge, and provided the usual regalia for the D. D. G. M., to be the property of the district, and to be handed over by him to his successor in office. All have contributed towards this except Hope and Hastings Lodges.

GENERAL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

A general Lodge of Instruction was held by me at the town of Peterborough, commencing on Wednesday, March 24th, and closing on Saturday, March 27th, at which a very large number of officers from all parts of the district, and many from other parts of the Dominion, attended. The hearty and general response to the call of this meeting, on the part of the officers of the several lodges in the district, was most gratifying, and clearly evinced that the Order has a warm place in the hearts of those who range themselves

under its banners in this district. All were seemingly animated with an earnest desire to acquire the pure and beautiful ritual of Grand Lodge.

The original intention was to confine the meeting to the members of the Craft in the Ontario district, and more especially to those residing in Peterboro' and its vicinity; but some brethren outside the district having expressed a desire to attend, it was intimated in the call for the meeting that all would receive a hearty and fraternal welcome. The Peterboro' Lodge Room, which is large and elegantly furnished, was, at times, uncomfortably crowded, and at all times during work was well filled. On the third day of the meeting the number present reached 130—the brethren present from a distance numbered about 80.

With respect to the harmony which prevailed, the thorough brotherly feeling exhibited, the opportunity presented to the members of the Order throughout the district to become acquainted with each other, the punctual, diligent and continuous attention of the brethren, and their close and severe application, the marked progress and improvement made in the acquisition of the work—in all these particulars the meeting was eminently successful, profitable and satisfactory.

During the session the opening and closing ceremony in in the different degrees, and the ritual connected with them, were fully and frequently worked, together with calling a lodge off and on; the examination of visitors; the election of officers; the reception and disposition of petitions; the mode of giving the grand honors; portions of the ceremony of installation; portions of the burial service; the form, reception and disposition of charges, &c., &c. In addition, many important constitutional and other questions in masonic jurisprudence were presented through a special standing committee, appointed at the organization of the meeting, to which all such questions were referred. The reports of this committee elicited great general interest, and in their discussion much talent and ability were

exhibited, and considerable light thrown upon many perplexing questions.

During each day the lodge met from 9 a. m. to 12 m., from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m., and from 7 p. m. to 10 p. m., and at each of these three daily sittings, as a rule, after the work had been exemplified and explained by the chair in general lodge, the whole meeting was subdivided into small Classes according to attainments, each of which was placed under the charge of a skilful Master, who had proved his competency by having exhibited perfect work in the general meeting. In these classes, which were under the general superintendence of the presiding officer, and which were visited by him every few minutes, the less skilled and less expert brethren had an ample opportunity of having the work repeated a number of times, and had thus every facility for its perfect and thorough acquisition. Indeed, many members who had but an imperfect knowledge of the ritual at the beginning of the meeting, succeeded in gaining a satisfactory knowledge of it before its close. So great has been the improvement in this respect that I now know of only one lodge in the district which is not worked by its own Master; while but a short time ago more than one-half of them were worked, to a greater or less extent, by borrowed Masters.

The present W. Masters in the Ontario District are, for the most part, very able men and zealous masons; and several of them possess the qualifications for that high and important office so admirably portrayed by M. W. Bro. Wilson, P. G. M., in his able sketch of a "Model Master:"

"These are Masters who preside over their lodges with ability, firmness and decision; whose manner is courteous, yet dignified; whose decisions are consonant with reason and masonic law; who dispense light and information among the Craft; who bestow upon the newly made brother, if worthy and qualified, not only wealth, but power also; not the wealth that corrupts its owner, nor the power which enslaves its dependant, but the ennobling *wealth* of wisdom, and the enduring *power* of knowledge; in short,

they are not only Masters of *men*, but also of *work*, and who are indeed entitled to the proud distinction of being regarded as the *cream of the Craft*."

MASONIC BANQUET.

During the session the brethren of Peterboro' entertained their visiting brethren at a splendid and sumptuous banquet. The party, numbering nearly ninety gentlemen, was presided over by W. Bro. Dr. Kineaid, W. M. of Corinthian Lodge, who discharged the duties of chairman in a becoming and highly creditable manner. W. Bro. D. S. Eastwood, W. M. of Peterborough Lodge, and Bro. Jas. F. Dennistoun, J. W. of Corinthian Lodge, occupied the places of Senior and Junior Wardens respectively. The general principles and maxims of the Order which naturally cropped out in the speeches, together with the more than courteous demeanor towards each other, demonstrated clearly that the creed and commands of the Order are not only good in themselves but also operative and influential in securing that fraternal comity which is a prominent feature of our institution. It was an occasion pleasant, profitable and worthy of remembrance.

I shall long remember with satisfaction and pleasure the interesting meeting of the general Lodge of Instruction at Peterboro', which, after a session of four days, was brought to a close on the afternoon of Saturday, March 27th, amidst warm expressions of satisfaction on all sides. "Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again."

In conclusion, I return my most hearty thanks to the brethren of Ontario District for my unanimous re-election to the office of D. D. G. M., and for their kindness and courtesy during all my official intercourse with them.

All which is fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM McCABE,
D. D. G. M., Ontario District.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In submitting my report of Prince Edward District for the past year, I would beg to state, that there are in the district 14 lodges, all of which I visited, with the exception of three; and I would have visited these but from circumstances causing disappointment. They could not be visited when I had arranged to do so.

The lodges visited are, with a few exceptions, working well, and are teaching the masonic art as approved by Grand Lodge.

I visited Moira and Belleville Lodges, held in Belleville, on St. John's Day in December last, and installed their officers, together with the officers of Trent Lodge, held in Trenton, who were present for that purpose.

I have granted dispensations to several lodges, for the brethren to appear in masonic clothing; and, though opposed to display in connection with the Order, I believe that masonry has been benefitted thereby.

There have been five deaths and masonic funerals, reported to me this year, viz: Bros. Moon and Fretz, of Madoc Lodge, Madoc; Bros. Maybee and Anderson, of Moira Lodge, Belleville, (who were both over sixty years connected with the Order,) and Bro. James Rosebrugh, who was buried by Trent Lodge, Trenton. He had been a mason 72 years, having been initiated in Clough Lodge, Ireland, in the year 1797.

During the year the M. W. Grand Master issued a dispensation for holding a lodge at Roblin's Mills, to be named "Lake" Lodge. I had the pleasure of opening that lodge and installing the officers, and from their known ability, I have no hesitancy in recommending the issuing to them of a warrant.

I have to tender my sincere thanks to the brethren of the

district, for the many acts of kindness and courtesy extended to me in the performance of my duties.

In conclusion, I would say that the spirit of *true masonry* is fast gaining ground in this district, and for this, the lodges in the western portion, are largely indebted to the untiring exertions of W. Bro. H. W. Delany—a more zealous and expert mason than whom I have never met.

All which is respectfully submitted.

H. W. DAY,

D. D. G. M., Prince Edward Dis't.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Canada, in Grand Lodge assembled.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, I beg to submit my report on the condition of Freemasonry in the St. Lawrence District, for the past masonic year.

I have visited nearly all the lodges in the district, and find them in good working order, with the exception of a few which require some instruction. I regret that my business avocations prevented my visiting these lodges oftener, for I find that the officers are anxious to conform to the ritual approved of by Grand Lodge, if they were in a way to receive instruction from time to time.

No complaint of any kind has been brought before me officially, which is certainly pleasing to notice.

The officers of the lodges that I have inspected are zealous and attentive to their duties, and receive such support from the members which show that a general interest is taken in the Craft.

I have much pleasure in reporting that Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, Cornwall, is again revived, and has resumed work under favorable auspices.

I installed the W. Master of Leed's Lodge, No. 201, Gananoque, and dedicated the lodge on the 12th January, 1869. I also installed the W. Master of Albion Lodge, No. 109, Harrowsmith, at the same time.

In reporting the formation of a new lodge at Lancaster, named "Lancaster" Lodge. I was informed that it was opened in September last by the M. W. Grand Master, under dispensation of the same. I am not in possession of any particulars, and, therefore, cannot say how they are progressing, it being one of the lodges I was unable to visit. I have also to report the formation of a new lodge under the name of "Elysian" Lodge, Garden Island, to which a dispensation was granted by the M. W. Grand Master in March last. I invested the W. Master and officers on the 30th March, 1869; and take great pleasure in referring to the manner in which the lodge is conducted, and would recommend that a warrant be granted them.

I granted a dispensation to Excelsior Lodge, No. 142, Morrisburgh, to form a procession for the purpose of attending Divine worship on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, (27th December,) 1868; and also to the same lodge for the same purpose, on the festival of St. John the Baptist (24th June,) 1869, and a dispensation to Simpson Lodge, No. 157, Newboro', to form in procession and have a pic-nic on the festival of St. John the Baptist, (24th June,) 1869.

Whilst on the subject of granting dispensations, I would remark that D. D. G. Masters have power to grant certain dispensations; and as it is imperative for every lodge to have a seal to make their documents perfect, should think it was also necessary for all documents issued by D. D. G. Masters to have a seal attached. I would, therefore, suggest that Grand Lodge furnish a suitable seal to the D. D. G. Masters, which could be handed to their successors.

The corner stone of a building erected at Kingston, Ont., to be used as a Masonic Hall, was laid with appropriate honors by P. G. M., W. B. Simpson, acting as M. W. G. M.,

at which a large concourse of the brethren attended, representing some eighteen different lodges—full particulars of which will be found in the Grand Lodge report. The building is now completed, and the brethren of the various masonic bodies in the city, are making the necessary preparations to occupy the same at an early day.

Quite a number of brethren have been cut off by the hand of death. Those reported to me are as follows: Bro. N. Booth, Lyn, buried with masonic ceremonies, August 7th, 1868, by Sussex Lodge, No. 5, Brockville; Bro. Robert Gaskin, buried with masonic ceremonies, February 23rd, 1869, by St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Kingston; Bro. Alfred Torr, buried with masonic ceremonies, May 4th, by Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott; Bro. Sir H. Smith, died Sept 18th, 1868; Bro. W. G. Draper, died Dec. 17th, 1868; Bro. Abm. Foster, died May 30th, 1869. These last three were members of St. John's Lodge, No. 3, Kingston. Bro. J. J. Babcock died April 12th, 1869, member of Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott.

In concluding this short report, I beg to thank the brethren of this district for the kindness and courtesy extended to me on all occasions.

All which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. M. WILKINSON,
D. D. G. M. St. Lawrence Dis't.

OTTAWA DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In accordance with the requirements of Grand Lodge, I beg to submit the following report for the Ottawa District.

On account of the very bad state of the roads, and other urgent circumstances, I was unable to visit all the lodges in

this district; but from having corresponded with most of them, I am led to believe that masonry is progressing favorably.

The want of a proper regalia for the D. D. G. M. is very much felt in this district.

Three dispensations for new lodges in this district have been granted by M. W. the Grand Master, during the past year, viz: Evergreen Lodge, Lanark; North Gower Lodge, North Gower; and Hawkesbury Lodge, Hawkesbury. The two first I cheerfully recommend to favorable consideration, as worthy of receiving charters, having been well governed by experienced Masters, who are well posted in their work; and the last I will leave in the hands of Grand Lodge.

It is with great pleasure I have to report the revival of True Britons' Lodge, No. 14, Perth, which has been closed for the last four years; but which will now start with renewed vigor, and be a credit to masonry, as it was in its younger days.

St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smith's Falls, which surrendered its warrant last year, has applied to be reinstated in their former position; which would have been done before this, but for the the inability of the W. M. elect to perform his work perfectly, which I hope will not long debar them from again resuming work.

In January I installed the W. M. of Madawaska Lodge, Arnprior; and in June I presented (for the brethren of Evergreen Lodge) a beautiful gold locket to Bro. C. E. Field, their W. M., who has brought that new lodge to such perfection.

The number of masonic death in this district has not been large, and as the Grand Sec'y has the list, I will not repeat them.

The multiplying of lodges is a great mistake, which should be guarded against as much as possible. We find in rural districts, when new lodges are started in the

vicinity of other lodges which have as much as they can do to exist, that in a short time two or three miserable lodges are struggling for life instead of one good healthy lodge.

Thanking the brethren for the honor they have conferred in electing me D. D. G. M. of this district, I sincerely trust that another will be chosen whose time is more at his disposal than mine; and as I have no desire nor expectancy to be re-elected, I can without hesitation suggest that Grand Lodge should defray the expenses of the D. D. Grand Masters.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM MOSTYN,

D. D. G. M. Ottawa District.

MONTREAL DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—It affords me much pleasure, in again presenting my annual report on the condition of Masonry in the District of Montreal, to state that generally the Craft has, during the past year, enjoyed a satisfactory and progressive prosperity.

I have to record one addition to the number of lodges in the district, by dispensation of the M. W. Grand Master, viz: "Chateauguay" Lodge, held in the village of Huntingdon, which I have had the pleasure of visiting and becoming personally acquainted with the *material* of which it is composed, as also the efficient manner in which the various degrees are conferred. It is accordingly with much satisfaction I can report to Grand Lodge, that not only are the respective officers well versed in their various duties, but the candidates admitted are of so high a character as cannot fail of building up in this section of the Province a lodge not only creditable to themselves, but to the Craft at large.

I therefore, cordially recommend that the usual warrant of confirmation be granted them.

I have endeavored, so far as in my power, to secure the adoption of the authorized ritual exemplified at last communication of Grand Lodge, held in the City of London, Ont. But there is yet a great want felt in securing perfect uniformity; and I am satisfied that this can only be attained by a well paid grand lecturer visiting statedly every lodge on the register. It will be only thus that the great anomaly of brethren in different districts—nay, even in the same district,—persistently adhering to different modes of *work*, can be effectually eradicated.

I have only issued one dispensation, granting authority to wear masonic clothing in public, viz: to Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, on the occasion of the funeral of V. W. Bro. J. S. Clark, P. M. of said lodge, and W. M. of Lancaster Lodge, U. D. I was applied to for a dispensation to wear masonic clothing at a ball, to be given by two of the lodges in this city, on St. John's Day in December last, and intimated my consent thereto, but found subsequently that such a power was not vested in me, the clauses in the constitution granting powers to District Deputies to issue dispensations, having been, some years ago, interpreted to exclude *balls*, although it might fairly be presumed that the word "festival" would embrace such an entertainment. The Book of Constitution should be so amended as to leave no room to doubt the authority of the D. D. Grand Master.

I have again great pleasure in calling the attention of Grand Lodge to the very efficient manner in which our local masonic board of relief performs the duties it was designed to discharge. Again I have to report an expenditure of nearly four hundred dollars during the year ending January, 1869, extended to transient brethren and to the widows and children of masons. All local claims by brethren being, in addition to this, relieved by the lodges with which they are affiliated. In connection with this subject I would respectfully urge upon Grand Lodge, a greater

liberality in dealing with cases of distress brought before it. As a general rule, when Grand Lodge is applied to it is for the purpose of securing more substantial and permanent relief than can possibly be expected from any local board, and the doling out of a few dollars here and there is often just putting a little further off the hopeless struggle against misfortune. An increased liberality in almost all cases brought before Grand Lodge, would be most surely justifiable, and would only be appropriating to their proper purpose our rapidly accumulating funds.

I have not, during the past term, been called upon officially to adjudicate upon any subject of importance to the Craft generally, with one single exception, viz: that of a P. Master of Lodge of Antiquity, against whom certain charges of unmasonic conduct were made. The R. W. Bro. against whom the charges were preferred was an honorary member of said lodge, and being now a non-resident of the district, he applied to me, in my official capacity, to stay proceedings, on the grounds, first: that a private lodge could not try an honorary member, but simply remove him from the rank conferred, by a vote of the lodge; secondly, that the charges were not definite enough, and could not, therefore, go to trial; thirdly, that the brethren alleged to have been the sufferers, (being members of said lodge,) should have been the proper parties to make complaint; and fourthly, that the alleged offence was a business transaction only, and therefore, not within the jurisdiction of the lodge. He further claimed that, in the event of my deciding against him in his protest, time should be allowed him to appear, either in person or by proxy, to answer said charges. On carefully examining the various points taken,—a synopsis of which only I have given—I could not arrive at any other conclusion than that it was competent for a lodge to try an honorary member, the same as an ordinary member, although I hold that the result of the trial, if adverse, could only affect his position in that lodge until confirmed by Grand Lodge, when all subordinate lodges must of necessity conform to the sentence passed as regards the offending

brother. Admitting, then, the competency of the lodge to try the R. W. Brother as an honorary member, I could not interfere with the undoubted prerogative of the W. M. to determine whether or not the charges were definite enough to go to trial, or whether the principles involved in the 3rd and 4th objections were such as to nullify the supposed masonic offence. I accordingly intimated my decision to the W. M. of Lodge of Antiquity, at the same time urging upon the lodge the justice and courtesy due to the R. W. Brother in acceding to his desire to be allowed time to appear in person or by proxy. The result was, I regret to say, that the lodge proceeded at once to trial, held the charge proven, suspended him from all masonic privileges, and notified the various sister lodges of the district of the action taken. I have since received from the R. W. Brother an appeal against the decision of the lodge, in which he claims the trial by Lodge of Antiquity to have been irregular, he not having been given an opportunity of defence—an objection which I conceive to be well taken; but as there are other important points involved in his appeal, and Grand Lodge being about to sit, I shall refer the whole matter for its consideration.

I would here, however, raise the question as to the jurisdiction of lodges over honorary members, so that Grand Lodge may give an authoritative ruling on the point, as a future guide to Masters and others to whom the question may be referred. It would seem that the term Honorary Member might imply a greater distinction from an ordinary member than simply exemption from dues; and if so, it is possible that the extent of a lodge's jurisdiction over them is at least worthy of discussion.

I cannot conclude without expressing the universal satisfaction experienced by the lodges and brethren in Montreal, that Grand Lodge has again honored us by holding its sessions in our city; and we trust that the present may be a pleasant reunion for all, and that, as heretofore, Brotherly

Love will be increased and strengthened by our mutual intercourse on such occasions.

The whole respectfully submitted.

ALEX. MURRAY,
D. D. G. M., Montreal District.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—There are now *nineteen* lodges in the Eastern Townships District. By the favor of the G. A. O. T. U., it has been my privilege to visit most of these lodges during the past year, and I am happy to report that they generally possess an excellent membership, and continue to enjoy a good degree of prosperity under the direction of well-skilled and efficient officers.

WORK.

Most of these lodges are practising substantially the ritual authorized by this Grand Lodge; yet as soon as practicable after the final report of the Committee on Work is received and adopted, I would earnestly recommend that this perfected work be at once communicated by some common sense method, to the officers of all the lodges throughout both Provinces.

LODGE MANUAL.

In behalf of many brethren, I beg to suggest whether there might not be prepared, under the sanction and authority of this Grand Lodge, a cheap and convenient manual for the use and guidance of the officers and brethren of the private lodges under its jurisdiction. Besides certain general information on Freemasonry, such a hand-book might contain approved forms for recording the minutes of private lodges, and for all the certificates and documents

required to be used by them. It might also contain instructions as to the proper manner of preferring charges against offending brethren, and the regular and constitutional method of conducting trials, and the like. There might also be in it, outline forms of installation and other ceremonies, and a great many other such important matters, information on which most brethren, anxious to discharge their duties faithfully and correctly, have, at present, chiefly to depend on foreign manuals, which are sometimes contradictory and materially different, especially in important details, from what is maintained and practiced under this jurisdiction.

LODGE FURNITURE.

A few lodges are still greatly in need of ashlar, tracing-boards, charts, trestle-boards and other such means of illustrating and enforcing the work and lectures; and as most of these can be procured at little expense, it is to be hoped that all will soon be supplied with these and all such really indispensable furniture.

LODGE INSTRUCTIONS.

It is to be feared that in too many instances, the lectures in the several degrees are either omitted altogether or but briefly alluded to, for what is said to be want of time or some such indefensible reason. This negligence is greatly to be deplored. The sad result is that the initiate often fails to understand the beautiful teachings of our Order—to comprehend its principles, or fully realize his duties and obligations, and hence we too often behold the sad spectacle of an ill-instructed and unenthusiastic Freemason.

It would often be very beneficial also, if from time to time the W. M. would read (as required,) or cause to be read, the annual proceedings of Grand Lodge; the Ancient Charges; the Book of Constitution, and portions of reliable books on constitutional law, and such like. This can readily be done, and with the happiest results, even where lectures and other instructions from Grand Lodge officers, and other eminent brethren, cannot often be enjoyed; and hence it

might not infrequently be found that even the more remote country lodges would be amongst the most enlightened of the Craft—a consummation most devotedly to be wished, and quite possible to be attained.

LODGES U. D.

I beg heartily to recommend Grand Lodge to confirm by warrant, the action of the M. W. the Grand Master in granting a dispensation to establish “Brome Lake” Lodge, in the thriving village of Knowlton. This new lodge is presided over by the able P. M. of Royal Canadian Lodge, who is assisted by zealous and efficient officers. It is enjoying a marked degree of prosperity, and will, doubtless, become a credit to the district and an honor to the Craft.

LODGES IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS DISTRICT.

The twelve following lodges are those comprising the Eastern Townships District three years ago, viz :—

1. Prevost	Lodge, No.	1, Dunham.
2. Dorchester	“ “	4, St. Johns’.
3. Nelson	“ “	8, Philipsburg.
4. Golden Rule	“ “	12, Stanstead.
5. Shefford	“ “	53, Waterloo.
6. St. Francis	“ “	67, Richmond.
7. Victoria	“ “	71, Sherbrooke.
8. Stanbridge	“ “	117, Stanbridge.
9. Yamaska	“ “	130, Granby.
10. Clarenceville	“ “	152, Clarenceville.
11. Browne	“ “	163, West Farnham.
12. St. John’s	“ “	175, Mansonville.

The seven following lodges have been added during the above mentioned period, viz :—

1. Tuscan	Lodge	No. 182, Levis.
2. Royal Canadian	“ “	187, Sweetsburg.
3. Ascot	“ “	188, Lennoxville.
4. Ashlar	“ “	191, Coaticook.
5. Frelighsburg	“ “	199, Frelighsburg.
6. Doric	“ “	204, Danville.
7. Brome Lake	“ “	U. D. Knowlton.

Petitions have been received for the establishment of three additional lodges. These may be recommended hereafter.

DIVISION OF E. T. D.

The Eastern Townships District at present includes all of the Province of Quebec lying east of the River Richelieu, and south of the St. Lawrence; and to visit once a year all the lodges scattered over this immense territory, requires more time and more expense than can reasonably be expected of any D. D. G. M. I have therefore submitted to most of the lodges included therein, the advisability of separating it into two districts, to be named the Bedford District and the St. Francis District. And I beg to give notice that on the second day of the annual communication of Grand Lodge, I will make a motion to that effect, and I pray that the petition may be granted. (For boundries of these districts see motion.)

NAME, STATUS, &C., OF GRAND LODGE.

I have the honor further to report that many of the lodges in the Eastern Townships District, have carefully and anxiously considered the important matters affecting the name, jurisdiction, status, &c., of this Grand Lodge, as involved in our recent and prospective political changes, and which were so ably and properly submitted for our consideration by our highly esteemed and talented M. W. Grand Masters, Simpson and Wilson, during the three past years; and I understand that many of the lodges have substantially adopted the amendment of committee report, found on page 373 of proceedings of Grand Lodge for 1867; and should any proposition having in view the adjudication of these important matters be brought forward during the present communication, I beg humbly to submit that the dignity and welfare of this Grand Lodge, and the highest interests of the entire Craft in both these Provinces, and even throughout the Dominion, will be best subserved by now giving to this subject that due consideration which its vast importance demands.

LAST WORDS.

In closing this my third and last annual report, as D. D. Grand Master of the Eastern Townships District, I take the opportunity of returning my grateful thanks to those lodges which have so kindly conferred upon me the rank of honorary membership—to St. Francis Lodge for honorary membership and also for the generous testimonial presented to myself and family,—to individual brethren for valued tokens; and to the whole fraternity throughout my district for all their favors, praying that when we have finished our labors in the lodge on earth, we may all be well fitted for a place in “that temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” So mote it be.

All which is fraternally submitted.

J. H. GRAHAM,

D. D. G. M.,

Eastern Townships District.

QUEBEC DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—In submitting my report for the year 1868–9, I must apologize for failing to render one for 1867–8, and crave your indulgence for the omission, consequent as it was on the springing up—just at the time the report should have been transmitted—of business which demanded and completely absorbed my whole attention; the present report therefore may be looked upon as embracing both periods referred to.

The same circumstances apply equally to my being absent from the last session of Grand Lodge; an absence I very much regretted as I was particularly anxious to obtain instruction in the approved ritual, in order that the wishes of Grand Lodge with reference to uniformity of work might be fully carried out. Disappointed in this respect, I had no

course left but to carry on my labors in accordance with previous instructions. This I have done to the best of my ability, and trust that at the present session of Grand Lodge I may succeed in so increasing my knowledge that I may be enabled to benefit the brethren in this quarter by assisting in disseminating the ritual in accordance with the late exemplification.

VISITING, WORKING, &C.

I have been unable to visit Shawenegam Lodge, but from the fact that I have never been referred to on any subject, and from information received, I am led to believe that it is working harmoniously and well. The other lodges in the district over which I have the honor to preside, have been visited very frequently, and I am happy to state that their position is most satisfactory. The mode and matter of the *work* is uniform, according to our present light; and the W. Masters and officers of the respective lodges are masons of zeal and intelligence, well qualified to discharge their important duties. In one lodge an error of judgment occurred in causing a candidate for advancement to be examined in the ante-room by a committee, instead of in open lodge; and on ascertaining the fact, I pointed out the irregularity to the W. M., at the same time cautioning him against its recurrence.

The returns and payments to Grand Lodge have always been prepared and forwarded in accordance with the requirements of the constitution, and the books are kept in a manner which reflects great credit on the secretaries and treasurers, and is worthy of the highest commendation.

COMPLAINTS.

It affords me great pleasure indeed to report that during the past two years, not a single instance of grievance or difficulty has arisen amongst the brethren here, that in any way demanded interference on my part—facts which I consider justify me in stating that unqualified harmony has been the characteristic of the Craft in this district; a state

of things which I trust may long continue, and which has rendered my path of duty most emphatically a path of "pleasantness and peace."

INSTALLATIONS.

On the 28th December last, I installed W. Bro. S. J. Burnstein, and V. W. Bro. Wilkinson as W. Masters respectively of Harington and Quebec Garrison Lodges, and at the same time invested the several officers for the ensuing masonic year. I was requested to install the officers of Tuscan Lodge, Point Levis, but business engagements preventing my personal attendance, at my request, W. Bro. McCallum, of Harington Lodge, kindly undertook the duty, which was duly performed.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the past two years no dispensations have been granted by me; nor have any new lodges been constituted in the district.

DEATHS.

The deaths among the fraternity reported to me during the above period, numbered four, viz: Bros. Lesueur and Caswell of Harington Lodge, and Bros. Peard and Wolfe of Garrison Lodge—the three former in 1867–8, the latter in 1869. The remains of Bro. Lesueur were interred with masonic honors at the English Cemetery, Point Levis, on which occasion I officiated, ably assisted by P. G. Supt. of Works, V. W. Bro. Biggar, P. M. of Tuscan Lodge, and the funeral procession was augmented by the officers and members of that lodge joining the brethren from the north side of the St. Lawrence.

Certain circumstances in connection with the demise of the late Bro. Caswell are worthy of more than a passing notice, illustrating as they do that, in some cases, even death itself does not always sever the chain of brotherly care and supervision.

The late Bro. Caswell was captain of the ship "Woodstock"

which left Quebec for England on the 22nd November, 1867, and early on the morning of the 1st December was driven ashore during a gale of wind at a place called Manche D'Epee, when the captain and several of his officers and men lost their lives, in consequence of the after-part of the ship, where they were at the time, becoming completely broken up. The forward part, being fast upon the rocks, kept together, and the deals which formed part of the cargo when washed out of the ship became frozen in such a manner as to form a firm and secure platform, by means of which the survivors—all of them less or more frost-bitten—were taken off the wreck by the inhabitants of the place.

When intelligence of the disaster reached Quebec, it was stated that the bodies of the captain, his two chief officers, and others of his men, had been recovered—that of the captain having its throat cut across, and, of course, the inference was that he had committed suicide, and it was so stated in the newspapers of the city. On learning this the brethren here felt not only sorry, but very much surprised; sorry for his untimely fate, and surprised to think that a man so highly respected by all who knew him, so staid and temperate in his disposition as Bro. Caswell, should have raised his hand against his own life.

Winter setting in with great severity immediately after this news arrived, all communication between Manche D'Epee and Quebec was closed, and no further intelligence reached the city. In the meantime one of Bro. Caswell's friends, in Hartlepool, England,—himself a mason—had written to W. Bro. Tweddell, then W. M. of Harington Lodge, in order to ascertain whether the circumstances of the case, as copied by the English from the Quebec papers, were correct. A reply was sent to the effect that there was no communication with the place where the wreck took place during the winter months, and that we in Quebec could neither add to, or take from the intelligence already received.

Nothing further transpired upon the subject until very

early in the spring of 1868, indeed much earlier than usual, one of the brethren who had succeeded in getting as far down the St. Lawrence as Fox River on urgent business—the latter place being near that where the “Woodstock” was wrecked—returned to this city and stated that his attention had been called to the matter, from information communicated to him by the mail courier, that the bodies of Captain Caswell and his two chief officers had not received Christian burial, but had been thrown into a hollow—it could not even be called a hole—on the beach a little above high water mark, and that portions of the remains protruded above the surface. On examination by the brother referred to, not only was this statement found to be correct, but he also ascertained that previous to being deposited in the place where he saw them, the bodies had been stripped completely naked.

He afterwards visited those of the crew who had been saved, and among these men, while all agreed in expressions of regret and respect for their late commander, not one entertained the slightest idea that he had committed suicide; and some of them had seen and spoken to him immediately before the after part of the ship had broken up; describing even his dress, which on account of the bitter cold prevailing at the time, was very heavy, and he had two mufflers around his neck and thick winter mitts upon his hands. They also stated that a man who lived at Madeline river, close to Manche D'Epee, had described the finding of the bodies entangled amongst a mass of spars and rigging, and according to his description, clothed as they had last been seen on board the ship. The same individual also stated that he could name the man who had cut the captain's throat; that he had seen him drag the body, which with the others was lying awash in the river, up on the beach and then draw his knife across the neck of the drowned man. Some days subsequently the person here referred to was seen at Fox River wearing the dead captain's guernsey shirt and sea boots. The crew said they were powerless to take any steps to secure the man, and he soon disappeared from the place.

These circumstances confirmed the idea generally intertained by the brethren, that Captain Caswell was not a man likely to commit suicide; and as several of them were aware that he had received a considerable sum of money in gold on the day he sailed from Quebec, and also that he wore a very valuable watch, both of which were in all probability upon his person when the ship broke up, it was supposed that the barbarous mutilation of the body had been committed either with the view of distracting attention from the robbery, or was the result of a wanton and demoniac impulse without aim, and without object.

A meeting of Harington Lodge was called and, although the undertaking was a most expensive one, the members with one voice gave their W. M., Bro. Tweddell, *carte blanche* in order to get the body to Quebec—the severe frost having kept it in a state of perfect preservation—obtain a Coroner's inquest, and then inter it as the body of a Christian man and mason ought to be interred.

An order was accordingly despatched to Fox river to get Captain Caswell's body coffined and sent up here. In the interim, the business having been placed in my hands, I waited on the Custom House and Police authorities, stating the information we had received, and requested that when the men of the ship came up they might not be allowed to leave without giving their evidence on the subject. This request was kindly acceded to, and I was informed that when the men arrived the case would be immediately attended to.

A few days after this the rescued men were brought to Quebec, were duly examined by the police authorities, and in their evidence disclosed the facts I have just stated, with the addition, that one of them produced a ring belonging to his late captain, which he had claimed on seeing it in the possession of one of the residents of Fox river, who, on giving it up, informed the man that it had been received from a third party who had obtained possession of it by cut-

ting off the finger upon which it had been worn. The ring was handed over to the authorities.

The body of our late brother having arrived in due course, a Coroner's inquest was assembled, at which I attended and before which the seamen gave their evidence. The proceedings of the inquest being restricted to ascertaining the means by which the deceased came to his death, the jury after hearing evidence on this point, and viewing the body, which, in consequence of the weather having suddenly become very warm, was very much decomposed, with the head almost severed from it and the hand denuded of the ring finger—returned an open verdict.

Satisfied that, at least, they had cleared the character of their late brother from the imputation of having committed suicide, the brethren of Harington Lodge obtained possession of his remains, and they were religiously and respectably interred at Mount Hermon Cemetery. They were followed to their last resting place by many of his "brethren and fellows," and by the survivors of his crew. So ended this episode in human life, teeming with valuable matter for reflection on the power and certainty of the law, and darkly illustrative of the advance which, in this enlightened nineteenth century, civilization has made along the shores of the lower St. Lawrence. Bro. Caswell's friends in England were made acquainted with what had been done.

STATE OF MASONRY.

Numerically there has been no glut of applicants for admission to the lodges here; but there has been that gradual and steady increase of worthy and respectable men to the ranks of our Order, which speaks volumes for the estimation in which Freemasonry is held by those "who dwell without the gates." Financially the lodges may be classed as occupying that position not inaptly denominated "the happy medium;" having neither too much nor too little of worldly wealth, but always sufficient for the wants of the time-being, with something to spare for unforeseen

casualties. The statistics of the several lodges being fully embodied in their respective returns to Grand Lodge, it would be a needless waste of time for you to read and me to write any thing further on subjects which are always so clearly and methodically elaborated by your R. W. Sec'y.

In the City of Quebec there were four lodges hailing under other jurisdictions than that of Canada; but one of them, Alma Lodge, has within the last two or three months surrendered its warrant to the Grand Lodge of England—leaving at the present time two under the English and one under the Scottish Registries. I am exceedingly happy to state that between these lodges and ours of Canada, the most fraternal relations exist; they are always found joining together “heart, hand and pocket,” in relieving suffering and distress, recognizing only in this good work the great masonic registry of universal benevolence.

Two of the lodges referred to—St. John's of England, and St. Andrew's of Scotland, being much older and consequently much more wealthy than the Canadian lodges, are at present, in conjunction with the Stadacona Royal Arch Chapter of Canada, expending a large portion of their substance in refurnishing and beautifying their rooms in the Masonic Hall. Brother Weston, of Montreal, is doing his very best to make these rooms what they are expected to be when finished—“second to none” in the Province. Pecuniary circumstances have prevented the Canadian lodges from joining in the undertaking, because, while their funds are amply sufficient to defray in a respectable manner their working and incidental expences, leaving a margin for charitable purposes, items which I look upon as the real *necessaries* of masonic life, they are not in a condition to justify an outlay for what may be termed masonic *luxuries*. When the co-operation of these lodges was requested, accompanied with liberal offers of advancing money to enable them to do so, I considered it my duty to point out the error of incurring debt for merely ornamental purposes, and knowing by experience that there is no incubus so heavy, no enemy that works so keenly upon the energy and vitality

of any institution, as debt, was happy to find that the sentiments of the brethren were in unison with my own, and that they agreed to remain contented with their present accommodation, waiting patiently the advent of "better times." While on the subject of foreign jurisdictions, I may state that the St. John's Royal Arch Chapter of England, has amalgamated with the Stadacona Royal Arch Chapter of Canada—a very pleasing circumstance indeed, and I trust an omen of that universal coalescence which ought now to obtain throughout the Dominion.

Before concluding this report, there is one point to which I would most respectfully call your attention, namely, that of Tuscan Lodge, No. 182, being placed in the Eastern Townships District. The lodge is located at Levis, or South Quebec, so close to Quebec proper that I am of opinion it would be much more expedient and convenient to extend the jurisdiction of the District of Quebec, so that it should embrace not only that lodge but both sides of the river below the city; and I have no doubt that such an arrangement would prove highly beneficial in a great many respects.

In yielding up the trust reposed in my hands, I must tender my thanks to R. W. Bro. Harris, your respected Secretary, for the prompt and kindly manner in which he has, on many occasions, aided me in my work by his well known experience; and to the officers and members of the lodges in the district, for their many kind attentions to me in the discharge of my duties.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALEX. WALKER,

D. D. G. M., Quebec District.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. M. H. Spencer, and resolved,

That the Reports of the various District Deputy Grand Masters just read, be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham gave notice that on to-morrow he would move that the Eastern Townships District be sub-divided, and made into two districts.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, and resolved,

That the rank of Past Grand Senior Warden in this Grand Lodge be conferred upon R. W. Bro. John N. Ellis, the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick.

R. W. Bro. J. Milne gave notice that on to-morrow he would move, that the expenses incurred by Harington Lodge, No. 49, Quebec, in the burial of the Captain of the ship "Woodstock," be refunded to said lodge from the general funds of Grand Lodge.

V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle gave notice that on to-morrow, he would move that Grand Lodge procure a new set of Regalia for the use of the Grand Officers.

W. Bro. W. B. Falkiner gave notice of the following resolution, for to-morrow:—

WHEREAS, certain lodges working under the Grand Lodge of England, have assumed the right to initiate candidates residing in localities beyond the localities where those lodges are situated, and have initiated persons who have been rejected by lodges working under the Grand Lodge of Canada, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the question be referred to the Board of General Purposes, with instructions to report to this Grand Lodge as to the rights and privileges of said lodges working under the Grand Lodge of England, and as to what action (if any) should be taken in the matter.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment to meet at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 7:30 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson presented his credentials and warrant of appointment as the accredited Representative of the Grand Orient of Italy, in the Grand Lodge of Canada, which were accepted and the M. W. Brother was saluted with the usual Grand Honors, and took his seat on the dais.

R. W. Bro. Rev. Vincent Clementi, as desired by a written request, was granted permission for his notice of motion which appeared in last year's proceeding, to lay over until the next Annual Communication, as follows: That the Constitution be so amended as to vest the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters in the M. W. Grand Master.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. J. M. Dunn, seconded by W. Bro. Charles Sharpe, and

RESOLVED, That the present "Huron" District be divided and made into two districts; the first to be known as "Huron" District, and to comprise the Counties of Bruce, Huron and Perth; the other to be called "Wellington" District, and to comprise the Counties of Wellington and Waterloo.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual communication,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. P. J. Brown, and seconded by V. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr,

That District Deputy Grand Masters be paid from the general funds of Grand Lodge their actual travelling expenses, for one visit during the year to each Lodge in their respective Districts.

In amendment,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. J. M. Dunn, seconded by Bro. D. T. McConnell,

That the necessary expenses of the District Deputy Grand Masters be paid by the Lodges in the District, the same to be assessed to the various lodges in proportion to their numbers.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared *lost*.

A vote of Grand Lodge was taken on the original motion, and it was declared *lost*.

In accordance with notice of motion, given at the last annual communication,

It was moved by W. Bro. W. S. Martin, and seconded by W. Bro. W. McKechnie,

That Section 7 of the Book of Constitution, relating to proposing members, be amended by inserting the word *one* in place of *two*, before the words "black balls," and the last sentence of said clause, commencing with the words "some lodges," to the end be struck out.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken, *viva voce*, the amendment to the Constitution was declared *lost*.

W. Bro. Martin demanded a ballot by lodges, and the same having been taken the amendment was declared *lost*.

M. W. Bro. A. Bernard gave notice that on to-morrow he will move : that members of the Board of General Purposes be paid their actual travelling expenses for attending upon the meetings of the Board at this annual communication of Grand Lodge, and that the resolution passed at the last annual communication, providing for the payment of the expenses of the members of the Board, be rescinded.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet on to-morrow, Thursday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, July 15th, 1869.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 10:30 o'clock,
A. M.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual communication,

It was moved by W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, seconded by
V. W. Bro. J. M. Dunn,

That Clause No. 1, of the Constitution, relating the D. D. Grand Masters, be amended by inserting therein, after the word *Representatives* the words *and Past Masters*.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the proposed amendment, it was declared *lost*.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual communication,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. E. C. Barber, seconded
by W. Bro. Henry Smith,

That it is desirable, in the interests of Freemasonry, that one, or more Grand Lecturers be appointed by this Grand Lodge.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the resolution, it was declared in the negative.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual communication,

It was moved by the V. W. Bro. Edward C. Barber,
seconded by W. Bro. Henry Smith,

That the fees and dues payable by subordinate lodges to Grand Lodge, be reduced one-half.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken, it was declared in the negative.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, seconded by V. W. Bro. John King, and

RESOLVED, That the Board of General Purposes be hereby authorized to procure a new set of Regalia for the use of the Officers of Grand Lodge, with the exception of District Deputy Grand Masters, and the same to be ready previous to the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge in July, 1870.

In amendment,

It was moved by W. Bro. W. S. Martin, seconded by Bro. D. T. McConnell,

That it is desirable to procure a new set of Regalia for the M. W. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the two Grand Wardens and the Grand Secretary.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared *lost*.

A vote of Grand Lodge was then taken on the original motion, which was declared to be in the *affirmative*.

W. Bro. A. J. Donly gave notice that on to-morrow he will move, that the M. W. Grand Master be requested to appoint a committee, in whom this Grand Lodge may invest the power to take such action as may be necessary to secure an act of incorporation from Parliament for the Grand Lodge, and for all subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction.

In accordance with notice given at the last annual communication of Grand Lodge,

It was moved by W. Bro. N. F. Dupuis, seconded by W. Bro. George Creeggan,

That the Constitution be amended by changing the time for the hold-

ing of the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, from the *Second Wednesday in July*, to the *First Wednesday in September*, in each year.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment to the Constitution, it was declared *lost*.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by W. Bro. N. B. Falkiner, and seconded by W. Bro. A. Diamond,

WHEREAS certain Lodges, working under the Grand Registry of England, have assumed the right to initiate candidates residing in localities beyond the localities where those lodges are situated, and have initiated persons who have been rejected by lodges working under the jurisdiction of Canada, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the question be referred to the Board of General Purposes, with instructions to report to this Communication of Grand Lodge as to the rights and privileges of such lodges so working under the Grand Registry of England, and as to what action (if any) should be taken in the matter.

In amendment,

It was moved by M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, and

RESOLVED, That the matter of jurisdiction and rights of Lodges, as submitted in the motion of W. Bro. Falkiner, be referred to the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment to meet at 1:30 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 2:30 o'clock, P. M.

M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

V. W. Bro. P. J. Brown gave notice that on to-morrow

he will move, that the next annual communication of Grand Lodge be held in the City of Toronto.

The President, on behalf of the Board of General Purposes, submitted the following annual report on Finance and Audit:—

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Board of General Purposes has the honor to report for the information of Grand Lodge, that the semi-annual meeting of the Board took place at the town of Belleville, on the 9th and 10th days of February, 1869. The books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, together with the statements and vouchers submitted for the financial year ending the 31st December, 1868, were examined and found to be correct.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The receipts for the year show an amount of \$8,612 73, derived from the following sources, viz:—

Certificates.....	\$2,545 00
Dues.....	3,756 85
Fees.....	1,533 00
Dispensations.....	288 00
Warrants.....	130 00
Constitutions.....	311 14
Proceedings.....	48 74
	<hr/>
	\$8,612 73

By the statements of the Grand Treasurer submitted the following was the position of the Grand Lodge funds:—

General Fund acct.....	\$21,203 83
Benevolent Investment acc't.....	8,625 14
“ Current “	720 73
	<hr/>
	\$30,549 70
Asylum Fund.....	4,800 00
	<hr/>
	\$35,349 70

Which are invested as follows:—

Middlesex Debentures at 6 per cent.....	\$ 1,600 00
Dominion Stock, 6 per cent.....	28,800 00
Gore Bank, Simcoe, 4 per cent.....	4,949 70
	<hr/>
	\$35,349 70

The Masonic Asylum Fund stands as follows:—

Dominion Stock.....	\$3,800 00
Bank of Montreal.....	364 04
Interest on debentures.....	133 00
“ from Bank of Montreal.....	11 61
Cash from Grand Treasurer.....	537 36
	<hr/>
	\$4,846 01
Less premium and broker's fee.....	53 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,793 01

The expenditure for the year was..... \$3,487 20

The amount expended for benevolence.... 1,245 00

The Provincial Debentures of the General Fund, drawing 7 per cent. interest, expired on the 17th September last, and were immediately converted into Dominion Stock bearing 6 per cent. to the amount of \$16,000. The Board are pleased to state that their conversion was effected *at par*.

The Board examined the following accounts and directed them to be paid, viz:—

W. C. Chewett & Co., printing Certificates.....	\$500 00
T. & R. White, printing Constitution and Pro-	
ceedings.....	555 00
T. & R. White, “ “ “	135 00
R. Haigh, binding Books of Constitution, &c..	190 00
R. Haigh, “ “	150 00
Wm. Brown & Co., stationery	14 75
Wm. Reid & Co., coals,	16 25
Freemason's Magazine,	7 63
Henry Groff, contingent expenses	7 31

Grand Secretary, balance due, expenses.....	56 48
Assistance, Grand Secretary's Office.....	150 00
Expenses G. Sec'y, Ann. Com. London.....	19 95

\$1,802 37

The Board instructed the President to have the surplus in the hands of the Grand Treasurer invested in Dominion Stock.

The Board also received intimation from the Receiver General, that the necessary alteration had been made in the Dominion Stock book, by substituting the name of R. W. Bro. James Seymour, the present President of the Board, for that of M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Board had under consideration numerous applications for relief, and authorized the payment of the following appropriations from the Fund of Benevolence, viz:—

Mrs. S., through R. W. Bro. A. De Grassi.....	\$ 50 00
Mrs. MacD., " M. " " Simpson	100 00
Mrs. W., " " " Kemp.....	20 00
Mrs. B., " " " Kemp.....	30 00
Mrs. M., " R. " " Macpherson.....	25 00
Mrs. G., " " " " Milne.....	30 00
Mrs. B., " " " " Weller.....	30 00
Mrs. P., " " " " Weller.....	20 00
Mrs. C., " " " " DeGrassi.....	20 00
Mrs. H., " " " " DeGrassi.....	30 00
Mrs. F., " V. " " Dunn.....	20 00
Mrs. C., " " " " Dunn.....	20 00
Mrs. P., " " " " Clarke.....	50 00
Mrs. F., " " " " Kemp.....	20 00
Mrs. D., " R. " " Grand Sec'y.....	20 00
Miss S., " " " " Kemp.....	40 00
Bro. G., " " " " DeGrassi.....	25 00
" C., " " " " Parry.....	25 00
" W., (monthly installments) W. M. 76....	50 00

\$625 00

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

The Board resolved that the former resolution of the Board, having reference to the granting of the sum of one hundred dollars to provide for assistance to the Grand Sec'y in his office, be rescinded, and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to engage a clerk, to be employed in his office, at a salary not exceeding five hundred dollars per annum.

A special committee, consisting of R. W. Bros. Seymour, Irving and Parry, was appointed, with full power to make all suitable arrangements for the Grand Secretary's office.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Board begs leave to report upon the several cases of Grievances and Appeals before it, as follows:—

R. W. Bro. David Browne, Prevost Lodge, No. 1, having been, as directed by Grand Lodge, summoned to show cause at to the semi-annual meeting of the Board, why he should not be expelled from the Craft, and no sufficient cause having been shown, is recommended for expulsion by the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Charles H. Potter, of Prevost Lodge, No. 1, and Bro. James Wight, of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, having been also, as directed by Grand Lodge, summoned to show cause at the same meeting of the Board why they should not be expelled from the Craft, and no cause whatever having been shown, are also recommended for expulsion.

Bro. Charles Raymond, of Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, having been likewise summoned, by direction of Grand Lodge, to show cause, at the same meeting of the Board, why he should not be expelled from the Craft, and Walsingham Lodge, the prosecutor of the charge against him, having by resolution expressed its wish that the matter should be allowed to stand over for the present, the Board deferred the consideration of the case until its meeting in July, 1869.

It was also resolved that the Board, having noticed in the

public prints, serious charges of misconduct against R. W. Bro. Franck, of Antiquity Lodge, Montreal, and inasmuch as such public discussion of misconduct on the part of masons brings discredit upon the Order, and cannot without injury be overlooked, it be an instruction to the Grand Secretary to write to the Lodge of Antiquity calling its attention to the charges, and enquiring whether any and what action has been taken in the case.

REMISSION OF DUES.

An application from True Briton's Lodge, No. 14, having been made for remission of dues, the Board referred the same to the Grand Secretary, and authorized him to remit such dues as he might think fit to put the said lodge in good working order.

EXPENSES OF THE BOARD.

It was resolved that the expenses of the members of the Board, then in attendance at the semi-annual meeting in Belleville, in February, 1869, be paid at the rate of 10 cents per mile, one way, and \$2 per day while in session, as per resolution of Grand Lodge, passed at the last annual communication—(see p.p. page 596;) and a committee was appointed to make up the pay roll. The payments were afterwards made, amounting in all to \$288 30.

PRINTING.

The Board resolved that the printing, &c., of the Grand Lodge should be given to members of the Craft, and by tender; and R. W. Bros. DeGrassi, Kerr and Bain were appointed as a committee on printing, whose report will be submitted at the present communication.

The Board also requested the Grand Secretary to collate from the records of Grand Lodge, all the standing resolutions, and have them printed as an appendix to the printed proceedings of Grand Lodge, at the present communication, and to continue to do so thereafter.

The Board would also acknowledge the fraternal kindness received by them at the hands of the members of the Moira and Belleville Lodges, during the same meeting.

The whole respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,

P. B. G. P.

On motion, the annual report of the Board on Audit and Finance was received.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT.

The Board of General Purposes have examined the financial statements of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, for the half-year ending 30th June, 1869, and have compared them with the vouchers submitted. They beg leave to report that they find the same to be correct.

The receipts for the half-year amounted to \$4,901 49, as follows:—

Certificates,.....	\$1,404 00
Dues,.....	2,252 09
Fees,.....	781 50
Dispensations,.....	220 00
Warrants,.....	10 00
Constitutions,.....	206 59
Proceedings,.....	27 31
Total.....	<u>\$4,901 49</u>

The Grand Treasurer's statement shows the following to be the position of the funds of the Grand Lodge, on the 30th June, viz :—

General Fund Account.....	\$23,316 16
Asylum Fund.....	4,937 ⁹ 01
Benevolent Fund, investment account,	8,625 14
“ “ current account.....	933 17
	<hr/>
	\$37,811 48

Which are invested as follows:—

Dominion Stock (bearing 6 per cent.)	\$28,800 00
Middlesex Debentures, 6 “ “	1,600 00
Bank of Montreal, (Toronto,).....	137 01
Bank of Commerce (Simcoe) 5 per ct.	7,274 47
	<hr/>
	\$37,811 48

The Board have also examined the following accounts, and recommend the payment of the same:—

W. C. Chewett & Co., printing certificates,.....	\$200 00
Buntin, Gillies & Co., stationery.....	8 15
Richard Haigh, binding,.....	7 00
Philp & Robertson, packing trunk,.....	3 00
Grand Sec'y, expenses at Board meeting, Belleville,	24 85
	<hr/>
	\$243 00

The Board have also had before them an application from Zetland Lodge, No. 21, to be repaid certain sums overpaid by the lodge as dues and fees, for deceased and suspended brethren, and others who had withdrawn, and recommend that whatever sum shall be found due to the lodge, on a proper investigation of the accounts, and returns be placed to the credit of the said lodge.

With reference to the application of Aylmer Lodge, No. 138, for remission of dues, the Board recommend that the dues be not remitted, but that a donation of \$40 from the fund of benevolence, be made to the lodge to assist in defraying the funeral expenses incurred by the said lodge.

The Board have also considered the subject of an appropriation to the Palestine Exploration Fund, and as the matter

is one of great importance, they recommend the grant of \$50 in aid of the said fund.

The Board also recommend the payment of the following amounts, for expenses incurred in attending to matters in connection with Stanbridge Lodge, and Western Light Lodge:—

J. H. Graham, D. D. G. M. Eastern Townships Dis't,	\$11 65
M. H. Spencer, D. D. G. M. Toronto District,.....	7 10
A. De Grassi, P. D. D. G. M. “ “	20 00

The Board also report that they cannot recommend assistance to the Lodge “Re-Union,” of Toulon, France, for building a Masonic Temple, or to “Rhea” Lodge, Tennessee, in aid of an educational fund.

The whole respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
P. B. G. P.

On motion, the semi-annual report of the Board on Audit and Finance was received.

The following report of the Masonic Asylum Trust, to the Board of General Purposes, was read:—

MASONIC ASYLUM FUND.

To the Board of General Purposes:—

The Masonic Asylum Trust beg leave to present the following report:—

The lapse of another year without any steps having been taken by the Grand Lodge, to sanction the commencement of the Asylum, the principle of the necessity for which was affirmed so many years since, has, to the knowledge of your Trustees, been the cause of deep pain and regret to many sincere masons, who, as they read with pride and gratifica-

tion of the progress that such institutions are making in the "Old and New Worlds," and especially in that favored portion of the former from which we hail, namely, the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the beloved "Mother Country," feel it to be a reproval to Canada and Canadian Masonry that we are still without a "sign or token" to signify to the uninitiated that our institution is truly based on that Divine principle which, when classified with "Faith" and "Hope" by one who wrote by inspiration, was declared to be greater than both, namely, "Charity;" and your Trustees fervently hope that this session of the Grand Lodge will not be allowed to close without action being ordered, whereby this reproach may be taken away.

Your Trustees had occasion since the last meeting, to make enquiries, but they cannot ascertain that any offer has been made, or if made is now open, of a site for the proposed Asylum, in any way approaching in eligibility to the munificent one from Niagara, to which they called the attention of the Grand Lodge in their last report. (See proceeding of Grand Lodge 1868, pages 598 and 599.) And they therefore again strongly urge the acceptance of the Niagara offer, the very name of which possesses a certain interest for the Canadian Institution, masonically and otherwise, and the sanction of the Grand Lodge, that immediate steps be taken to make a beginning in this good and glorious work, to the honor of the Craft and, we trust, the approval of the G. A. O. T. U.

The recent erection in the Town of Niagara of a magnificent Summer Hotel will doubtless cause this old and interesting town to become a place of general resort for the travelling community, which your Trustees name as another cause, and in their opinion not an unimportant one, which may be suggested in addition to those urged in their former report, for adopting this location for the Asylum.

Your Trustees request that, as no action was taken upon their former report, it may be read in connection with the present one; and they have only further to report an

addition to the funds, per subjoined statement, of \$ 235 61
 To which add the former balance..... 4,701 40
 (See proceedings 1868, page 598, where this is
 stated by a typographical error as \$4,681 40.)

Makes the present balance..... \$4,937 01

The interest has, however, only been made up to April last; adding therefore the amount accrued since, the Trust now exceeds by a small amount the round sum of \$5,000, as available for the purpose of commencing the Asylum, with such other funds as the Grand Lodge may see fit to appropriate to so important an object.

In conclusion, your Trustees have no hesitation in adding that this sum will in all probability be at once doubled by contributions from private lodges; who, your Trustees can speak advisedly when they state, are only holding back until the action of the Grand Lodge is announced, and this great scheme set on foot with the authority and under the auspices of the "Rulers of the Craft."

All which is respectfully submitted.

KIVAS TULLY,	} Trustees.
<i>Chairman.</i>	
S. B. HARMAN,	
A. DeGRASSI,	
JAMES BAIN,	

TORONTO, July 10th, 1869.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT ABOVE REFERRED TO.

DR.

To balance per last acc't..... \$4,701 40
 (Stated in error at \$4,681 40.)

To interest received as follows:—

1. On Canada 7 per cent. debentures,
 paid off..... \$133 00
2. On Bank balance..... 11 61
3. On Dominion Stock, (present
 investment, as under,)..... 144 00

\$288 61

Less brokerage,.....	\$ 5 00		
Temporary Bank advance....	12 00		
Premium on stock purchased,	36 00		
	<u> </u>	53 00	235 61
			<u> </u>
			\$4,937 01

CR.

By present investment, Dominion stock, (cost \$4,836 00).....	\$4,800 00
By balance in Bank.....	137 01
	<hr/>
	\$4,937 01

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. Seymour, seconded by V. W. Bro. James Bain, and

RESOLVED, That the report of the Masonic Asylum Trust be received.

Continuation of the report

ON BENEVOLENCE.

The Board of General Purposes having carefully considered the several applications for relief laid before them, beg to recommend that the sums affixed to the names of the following applicants, respectively, be appropriated from the Fund of Benevolence, viz:—

Mrs. W.	through	R. W. Bro. Walker.....	\$25 00
Mrs. T.	“	“ “ “ Seymour.....	25 00
Miss S.	“	“ “ “ E. Kemp.....	30 00
Mrs. B.	“	“ “ “ R. Kemp.....	30 00
Mrs. D.	“	W. M. Corinthian Lodge No. 101,	20 00
Mrs. G.	“	D. D. G. M. London District.....	25 00
Mrs. F.	“	R. W. Bro. Graham.....	40 00
Mrs. A.	“	V. “ “ P. J. Brown.....	50 00
Mrs. W.	“	D. D. G. M. Ontario District, (for the year,)	50 00
Mrs. B.	“	R. W. Bro. Weller.....	25 00
Mrs. P.	“	“ “ “ Weller.....	20 00
Mrs. N.	“	“ “ “ Graham.....	30 00
Mrs. L.	“	“ “ “ John Parry.....	25 00

Mrs. F.	"	W. Bro. Sharpe	20 00
Mrs. C.	"	" " Sharpe	20 00
Mrs. FitzK.	"	" " Joseph Gibson.....	50 00
Montreal Board of Relief, thro' M. W. Bro. Bernard			100 00
Bro. J. D. through	R. W. Bro. Matheson, (for		
the year).....			40 00
Mrs. T.	"	" " McMurchy.....	25 00
Bro. C. B.	"	W. M. Plattsville Lodge....	20 00
Bro. J. B.	"	R. W. Bro. Graham.....	20 00
Toronto Benevolence Committee, through			
V. W. Bro. Bain.....			100 00
Bro. W. C. through	D. D. G. M. Ontario Dis't...		25 00
Bro. J. K. M. thro'	D. D. G. M. London	"	25 00
Bro. W. S. thro'	D. D. G. M. Prince Edward	"	20 00
Bro. J. R.	"	W. Bro. E. Jackson.....	40 00
Bro. J. G.	"	R " " DeGrassi.....	25 00
Mrs. C.	"	" " " DeGrassi.....	20 00
Mrs. H. T.	"	V. " " J. Bowman.....	25 00
Mrs. I.	"	" " " J. Bowman.....	20 00
Mrs. Q.	"	" " Greening.....	30 00
Hamilton Relief Com. thro' V. W. Bro. Pringle,			50 00
Bro. W. in the usual manner.....			50 00
Mrs. S. through	W. Bro. Pickel.....		20 00
Bro. W. E.	"	" " C. A. Rice.....	25 00
Orphan child of late W. Bro. T. T.....			15 00
Mrs. W. J. B. thro'	W. M. Sussex Lodge, No. 5,		25 00
Mrs. J.	"	" Bro. John Waddel.....	30 00
Mrs. A.	"	" Philip Henry.....	25 00
Mrs. P.	"	" " E. H. Smith.....	25 00
			<hr/>
			\$1,285 00

The Board also beg Grand Lodge to confirm and approve of the following charity grants, made by R. W. Bro. Seymour during the interval between the last annual meeting and this present meeting of the Board, viz :—

June 7.	Mrs. W., Guelph.....	\$25 00
" 16.	Mrs. D., Kingston.....	25 00

April 17. Bro. C. B.....	20 00
Mrs. C., Aylmer.....	25 00
Mrs. G., Montreal.....	25 00
	<hr/>
	\$120 00

The whole respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
P. B. G. P.

On motion, the report of the Board on Benevolence was received.

R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham gave notice that on to-morrow, he will move that the sum of \$500 of the general funds of Grand Lodge be transferred to the fund of Benevolence.

Continuation of the report of the Board

ON CONDITION OF MASONRY.

The Board of General Purposes begs to submit the following on the reports of the D. D. Grand Masters, received from the twelve Districts into which the Grand Lodge jurisdiction is divided:—

The flourishing condition of Masonry, as reported by the several D. D. Grand Masters, in their respective districts, is a renewed proof of the beneficial results that have emanated from a judicious promulgation of the tenets of our time-honored institution, which without proselytism or propagandism nevertheless steadily marches onward to its grand aim in the cause of humanity, receiving under its noble banner the most illustrious and enlightened of the country, and augmenting its resources devoted to the cause of charity in a degree unparalleled by any other institution.

During the current Masonic year twelve dispensations for the opening of new lodges are reported as having been

granted by the M. W. the Grand Master, while only one application for dispensation has not been recommended, by reason of incapacity of the proposed W. Master to perform the "work." During the same period three lodges have been revived, but the petition for the revival of another lodge has not been recommended for reasons fully explained by the D. D. G. M. in that district. At the same time one of the D. D. Grand Masters expresses his disapprobation in regard to an injudicious multiplication of lodges. It is also gratifying to learn that the small number of lodges still existing in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario working under other charters than those of this Grand Lodge, is still and gradually decreasing, and that they are surrendering their warrants and are joining us in a true masonic spirit.

The "work," as established by this Grand Lodge, is reported as being properly practiced in three districts, while in other three districts it is acknowledged of being only partly in operation, owing to a want of proper instruction, and an earnest desire for "light," on that subject is most particularly expressed.

The complaint of the majority of the D. D. Grand Masters that owing to want of time, and the great extent of territory embraced in their respective districts, which from year to year virtually increases by the addition of new lodges, they have not been able to visit all the lodges under their respective jurisdictions—have now become almost a stereotyped excuse for not complying with that part of our constitution which makes it imperative upon every D. D. G. M. to visit all the lodges in his district during his term of office; and for this reason the D. D. Grand Master of the Huron District, who has twenty-one lodges under his jurisdiction, wisely recommends the division of that district, setting apart the Counties of Waterloo and Wellington as a separate district; and the D. D. Grand Master of the Eastern Townships District also expresses his views strongly on the division of that district. The Board therefore recommends that the Huron District, and the Eastern Townships District,

be divided accordingly ; and that a committee be forthwith appointed to make arrangements for a re-division of all the districts.

Harmony, that noble and most desirable attribute of a Freemason's Lodge, appears to have almost universally prevailed during the last masonic year, as only four cases of complaint were brought for adjudication before the D. D. Grand Masters, and these not of a serious nature.

Regarding the regalia of the D. D. Grand Masters, the lodges in some districts have complied with the recommendation of the Grand Lodge in paying towards the purchase of such regalia, while others have neglected or refused to do so. The Board therefore again urgently recommends that the lodges of each district provide funds for the purchase of the regalia of the D. D. Grand Master, and that such regalia be the property of the district purchasing it, and be held in trust by the incumbent of that office.

The obituary lists furnished by the several D. D. Grand Masters, again most forcibly remind us of the uncertainty of this our transitory life. Several of those who only recently were well and hale among us, and at our annual communications, are now no more—they are numbered with the dead. The last sad duty which the brethren pay to departed merit is to inter the remains of the deceased with proper masonic ceremonies ; and in one particular instance, that of the late Bro. Caswell by the Harington Lodge, Quebec, this duty was performed with great expense, exertion, difficulty and praiseworthy devotion to fraternal sympathy. A similar case to that of the Brethren of Harington Lodge, was that of Speed Lodge, Guelph, which has nobly performed an act of true masonic charity towards a brother who had lately arrived from England, and only been in Guelph a few days, and whose sudden death was caused by his having been accidentally kicked by a horse. The brethren of Speed Lodge at great sacrifice and expense provided for the temporary wants of that brother during his

illness, and after his death buried his remains with masonic ceremonies.

Among those who have passed away none are more regretted than V. W. Bro. W. Graham of True Blue Lodge, No. 98, one of the leading officers of Provincial Grand Lodge prior to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada; an honest, upright man and a true Mason. Also R. W. Bro. Lient.-Col. Bridgford, a man who during more than fifty years was a faithful standard bearer of masonry, rearing and keeping it aloft through storm and peril. He too has gone to his long home; peace to his ashes!

The Board also notice with deep regret that R. W. Bro. Wm. Fitch, of Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby, and P. D. D. Grand Master of the Hamilton District, is numbered with those who have gone to rest in the Grand Lodge above. His active devotion to masonry deservedly entitles his name to be held in grateful remembrance by this Grand Lodge, for which purpose the Board suggest that a memorial page in the printed proceedings of Grand Lodge be set apart, wherein to inscribe his name, rank and date of death.

The whole respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
P. B. G. P.

On motion, the report of the Board on Condition of Masonry was received.

Continuation of report of the Board.

CONSTITUTION AND REGULATIONS.

ON WARRANTS.

The Board of General Purposes to whom were referred all matters connected with "Constitution and Regulations," begs leave to report the pleasing fact, that there is *not one complaint* of unconstitutionality in the work of any one of

the numerous lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The Board begs further to report that the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and the model By-Laws published by Grand Lodge, should be placed in the hands of the officers of all lodges to whom dispensations are issued, in order to make the By-Laws of all lodges uniform.

The Board would again advise the officers of lodges under dispensation, and desirous of obtaining warrants of constitution, that it is of the highest importance to have their Minute-Books ready for inspection, and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, two days before the annual communications of Grand Lodge, in order to facilitate the business of Grand Lodge, by enabling this Board to complete its labors before Grand Lodge meets.

The Board having carefully examined and considered the several applications for Warrants, from twelve lodges now working under dispensations, and being satisfied with the efficiency of their working and the correctness of their minutes, respectfully recommend the following as having proven themselves worthy of receiving warrants of constitution from Grand Lodge, viz:—

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. North Gower | Lodge, North Gower. |
| 2. Lancaster | “ Lancaster. |
| 3. Chateauguay | “ Huntingdon. |
| 4. Hawkesbury | “ Hawkesbury. |
| 5. Evergreen | “ Lanark. |
| 6. Brome Lake | “ Knowlton. |
| 7. Elysian | “ Garden Island. |
| 8. Dominion | “ Ridgeway. |
| 9. Lake | “ Roblin's Mills. |
| 10. Craig | “ Ailsa Craig. |
| 11. Harris | “ Orangeville. |
| 12. Frederick | “ Fredericksburg. |

With reference to Lancaster Lodge, the Board recommends that Bro. Alex. McGregor's name be inserted in the warrant

as W. Master instead of V. W. Bro. Clark's, who has deceased. Also that the name of Bro. Thos. Ross, M. D., be inserted in the warrant as Senior Warden in place of Bro. H. Richardson, resigned. The above is in accordance with the prayer of the lodge, as shown in the accompanying resolutions of Lancaster Lodge. The Board would also make a special note of the peculiar completeness and accuracy of the books of this lodge, as well worthy the imitation of all our lodges.

The Board would also protest in the strongest terms against the criminal neglect of the parties responsible therefor, in the production of the books and papers of the lodges under dispensation. It is impossible for this Board to facilitate the business of Grand Lodge, when every possible obstruction is offered to the Board in the preparation and completion of its work.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,

P. B. G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, and

RESOLVED, That the report of the Board on Warrants be received and adopted.

Continuation of the report of the Board

ON GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Board of General Purposes begs leave to report upon the several cases of Grievances and Appeals, which have been brought before it, as follows:—

1. Bro. James Johnstone Hall was, on the 18th of January, 1869, suspended by St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Mary's, subject to approval by Grand Lodge, for violating the secrecy of the ballot. It does not appear that this was a second offence. The penalty for a first offence of this kind is

“severe masonic censure.” (Constitution page 65.) The Lodge therefore exceeded its powers in suspending the Brother. It is therefore recommended that the suspension be forthwith removed, and that Bro. Hall be restored.

2. Bro. Robert Park was, on 22nd June, 1869, excluded by Tudor Lodge, No. 141, on a charge of forgery. The papers produced, however, seem to be insufficient to justify the action taken. It is recommended that they be returned to the Lodge for further consideration.

3. Bro. Joseph Hugill was, on the 20th April, 1869, suspended by Tudor Lodge, No. 141, on a general charge of “acting in a fraudulent and deceitful manner towards Bro. David H. Stewart, and other members of the lodge.” The notice being insufficient, the charge indefinite, and no evidence being produced in support of it, it is recommended that all the papers be returned to the lodge.

4. R. W. Bro. John Charles Franck was, on the 3rd June, 1869, suspended by Lodge of Antiquity, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. It is recommended that the Grand Secretary be instructed to summon Bro. Franck to appear before the next semi-annual meeting of the Board to show cause why the action of the lodge in his case should not be sustained, and its recommendation carried out.

5. Bro. J. M. Campbell was, on the 25th September, 1868, suspended by St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200, until this meeting of Grand Lodge. It is recommended that the suspension be continued until he submits, and grace be granted to him by his lodge.

6. W. Bro. John Cascaden was, on 21st August, 1868, suspended by Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion, for using very improper language towards W. Bro. John Edgecombe. The matter was subsequently referred by the M. W. the Grand Master, to R. W. Bro. J. E. Brooke, D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Moffat, P. D. D. G. M., for investigation. They recommended an apology by the offending brother, and he having in writ-

ing retracted and apologized to Bro. Edgcombe and Prince of Wales Lodge, for the language which he is charged with having used, it is recommended that the suspension be removed and that Bro. Cascaden be restored.

7. Bro. Lewis Clement was, on 24th June, 1869, suspended by Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, for gross unmasonic conduct, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. This recommendation is concurred in by the Board. The usual summons for the next meeting of the Board it is hoped will be authorized by the Grand Lodge.

8. Complaints were made by R. W. Bro. B. C. Davy against Bros. Robert Downey and Arthur Downey of Union Lodge, No. 9, of which these three brethren are members. On the 25th May, 1869, both complaints were dismissed by the lodge. Bro. Davy has therefore appealed to Grand Lodge. It is recommended that this appeal be allowed to remain over until the next annual communication, with liberty to him to take such steps in the meantime as he may be advised.

9. Bro. James Bice was, on the 8th April, 1869, suspended by King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, for unmasonic conduct. From this decision Bro. Bice appeals, on the ground that he was not duly summoned to show cause. The Board is of opinion that the summons was sufficient, and that therefore this appeal should be dismissed, and recommend the same accordingly.

10. In the case of Bro. Dettmers, suspended by Antiquity Lodge, no additional evidence has been presented. The Board would therefore submit the matter again to the M.W. the Grand Master.

11. In the matter of the dispute between Bros. Diamond and Moore, there is no sufficient evidence before the Board to justify it in coming to a decision.

12. Bro. D. Browne, Bro. Charles H. Potter and Bro. James Wight having been summonsed, as reported by the Grand

Secretary to the Board, it is recommended that they be expelled from the Order, and their expulsion recorded.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
P. B. G. P.

On motion, the report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals was received.

Continuation of the report of the Board

ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The Board unites with the M. W. the Grand Master in acknowledging, with devout gratitude, the merciful care of the Almighty Architect and Supreme Governor of the Universe in permitting us once again to assemble in Grand Lodge.

The Board regrets that, on account of unavoidable circumstances, the Grand Master was prevented from carrying out his intention of visiting one or more lodges in each district, as it feels assured that such lodges would have derived much profit and pleasure from a personal visitation from the Grand Master, and that it would have resulted in the increased prosperity of the Craft in the different districts.

The Board is gratified to learn that the prospects of Grand Lodge are so encouraging, and its financial affairs in so favorable and satisfactory a state; and that notwithstanding the large number of dispensations granted for the formation of new lodges, due care has been taken to see that in each case the W. Master elect was capable of working and governing his lodge.

The Board regrets to learn that the ambition of some brethren to obtain office has led to the formation of opposite parties in lodges, and to personal canvas for office; and join with the M. W. the Grand Master in recommending every brother to cast his vote against, instead of for, any brother who resorts to such improper and unmasonic conduct.

The commendation bestowed by the Grand Master on the zeal and fidelity of the R. W. Grand Secretary and the R.W. the Grand Treasurer, in the discharge of their respective important duties, meets with the most cordial concurrence of the Board.

The Board is gratified to learn that our fraternal intercourse with other Grand Lodges of the world is steadily increasing, as evidenced by the appointment, since our last meeting, of representatives from this Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodges of Tennessee, New Brunswick and Louisiana.

The Board rejoices to learn that a complete union of all the lodges in Nova Scotia, under one Grand Lodge, has been satisfactorily accomplished, and that this Grand Lodge was honored by an invitation to its Grand Master to install their Grand Master elect, M. W. Bro. the Hon. Alex. Keith; and it is gratifying to learn that the visit of our M. W. Grand Master was received in such a fraternal and hospitable manner, and that it may be the means of uniting more closely than heretofore the brethren of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick with those of this Grand Lodge.

In regard to the paragraph in the Grand Master's address relating to the establishing of a Masonic Asylum or a Freemasons' School, as a report of the Asylum Trust in the same connection has been presented to Grand Lodge, on which action may be taken, the Board deems it inadvisable to make at this time any special recommendation, leaving the whole question to be dealt with by Grand Lodge.

With reference to that part of the Grand Master's address relating to the position of this Grand Lodge and its supreme jurisdiction, and to the position of lodges holding under other jurisdictions, and recognizing the importance of a speedy settlement of these difficulties, the Board recommends that the whole matter be left in the hands of the M. W. the Grand Master to take such action as he may deem proper.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
P. B. G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. Murray, and

RESOLVED, That the report of the Board on the M. W. Grand Master's address be received.

In accordance with notice given,

I was moved by R. W. Bro. John H. Graham, seconded by W. Bro. Hon. Thos. Wood, and

RESOLVED, That the present Eastern Townships District be divided into two districts. The Eastern District to be named the "St. Francis" District, and to include within its jurisdiction the Judicial District of the same name, and also all the territory east of that district and all the territory east of the river St. Francis and south of the river St. Lawrence; and that all the territory west of the above, within the limits of the present Eastern Townships District, be included in the western district, and be named the "Bedford" District.

The Grand Secretary read a petition from a number of Brethren, praying for a warrant of constitution to open a new "Zeredatha" Lodge in the village of Uxbridge, together with a letter from the proposed first Worshipful Master.

On motion, it was

RESOLVED, That the Deputy Grand Master, with the D. D. Grand Master for the Ontario District and V. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, be a Committee to examine the W. M. elect in regard to his capability of conferring the three degrees of Craft Freemasonry as recognized by this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary read a petition from a number of brethren, praying for a warrant of constitution to open a new lodge in the city of Toronto, to be named the "Stevenson" Lodge.

On motion, it was

RESOLVED, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted as soon as the proposed W. Master satisfies the D. D. Grand Master for the Toronto

District, that he is capable of conferring the three degrees of Craft Masonry, in the manner as recognized by Grand Lodge, and that a recommendation to that effect be forwarded to the M. W. Grand Master.

V. W. Bro. Edward C. Barber gave notice that at the next annual communication he will move, that the fees and dues payable by subordinate lodges to Grand Lodge be reduced one-half.

V. W. Bro. Edward C. Barber gave notice that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, he will move, that one or more Grand Lecturers be appointed.

The M. W. Grand Master gave it as his ruling, that lodges working under dispensation had not the right to appoint a proxy, for the purpose of voting on any matter in Grand Lodge, nor for the office of D. D. G. M. of the district.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by W. Bro. E. Patching, seconded by V. W. Bro. Geo. Billington, and

RESOLVED, That that portion of the Huron District which formerly formed part of the County of Huron, and which by Legislative enactment now forms part of the County of Middlesex, be transferred from the Huron District and made part of the London District.

W. Bro. W. R. Anderson gave notice that on to-morrow he will move, that the vote authorizing the procuring a set of regalia for the officers of Grand Lodge, be reconsidered.

R. W. Bro. Alexander Walker gave notice that on to-morrow he will move, that the question of the division of the Eastern Townships District be reconsidered, and that Tuscan Lodge, Point Levis, and the north and south sides of the river St. Lawrence, below the city of Quebec, be included in the Quebec District.

The Grand Secretary, presented to Grand Lodge the

credentials of R. W. Bro. S. B. Harman, as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas, which were cordially accepted.

R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson presented his credentials as the Representative of the Grand Orient of Uruguay, which upon examination were most satisfactory. The R. W. Brother was saluted with Grand Honors, and was invited to a seat on the dais.

R. W. Bro. Thomas Bird Harris presented to the M. W. Grand Master his warrant of appointment as the accredited Representative of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Tennessee, which was, on examination, found most satisfactory, and cordially accepted. The R. W. Brother was saluted with Grand Honors, and invited to a seat on the dais.

The Grand Secretary read a letter received from F. E. Kilvert, Esq., Churchwarden of St. Thomas Church, Hamilton, containing the following resolutions of thanks to the M. W. Grand Master and Grand Lodge for the services rendered in laying the foundation stone of that Church :—

“RESOLVED, That the warmest thanks of this Parish are presented to the M. W. Grand Master and other officers of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, for their services in laying the foundation stone of St. Thomas Church, Hamilton, on the 1st day of July, A. D. 1869.

“RESOLVED, That this Parish present their grateful acknowledgements to all Masons who, by their presence and liberality, contributed to the dignity and impressiveness of an occasion which will be long remembered for the order and solemnity of its services.

“RESOLVED, That the Wardens of St. Thomas Church forward to T. B. Harris, Esq., Grand Secretary, the above resolutions for communication to the proper quarters.”

V. W. Bro. J. M. Dunn gave notice that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, he will propose

alterations in the Book of Constitution relating to the Board of General Purposes, with the object of better preserving the representative character of this Grand Lodge; and to that end will move amendments to the various articles relating to the Board of General Purposes, providing for the number, qualifications, duties, mode of selection and appointment of the members thereof.

W. Bro. J. C. Brown gave notice that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge he will move, that Ontario District be divided into two districts, the one to include the Counties of Ontario, Durham and Victoria, and be called the "Ontario" District, and the other to include the Counties of Northumberland and Peterboro', and to be called the "Northumberland" District.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet on to-morrow, Friday, at 10 o'clock A. M.

FRIDAY, July 16, 1869.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 10:15 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington presented to the M. W. Grand Master, his credentials as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which were cordially accepted. The M. W. Brother was saluted with the Grand Honors and took his seat on the dais.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. P. J. Brown, seconded by V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, and

RESOLVED, That the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge be held at the City of Toronto.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, seconded by V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, and

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be conveyed, through the R. W. Grand Secretary, to the Harington Lodge, No. 49, Quebec, for the zeal and energy with which they prosecuted their enquiry into the circumstances in connection with the death of our late Bro. Caswell, commander of the ship "Woodstock."

The consideration of the report of the Masonic Asylum Trust was resumed.—See pages 102, 103, 104 and 105.

It was moved by V. W. Bro. James Bain, seconded by V. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr,

That the report of the Masonic Asylum Trust be adopted.

In amendment,

It was moved by W. Bro. A. Diamond, seconded by V. W. Bro. John King, and

RESOLVED, That the further consideration of the report upon the Masonic Asylum Trust be deferred until the next annual communication of Grand Lodge.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared in the affirmative.

The consideration of the report of the Board was resumed.

On Annual report Audit and Finance—see pages 95, 96, 97, 98, 99 and 100.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller, and

RESOLVED, That the annual report of the Board on Audit and Finance, &c., be adopted.

On Audit and Finance, semi-annual—see pages 100, 101 and 102.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, and

RESOLVED, That the semi-annual report of the Board on Audit and Finance be adopted.

On Grievances and Appeals—see pages 112, 113, 114, and 115.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. W. H. Weller,

That the report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals be adopted.

In amendment,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. A. Murray, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. Bull,

That the report of the Board of General Purposes be amended, by striking out the clause recommending that R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck be summoned to attend the next semi-annual meeting of the Board, to show cause why the action of the Lodge of Antiquity should not be sustained, and inserting the following instead thereof:—

That the charge as laid against R. W. Bro. Franck, does not involve a masonic offence, and inasmuch as Grand Lodge has already decided that it cannot undertake to act upon mere legal questions, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the action of the Lodge of Antiquity be not sustained.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared *lost*.

It was then moved by V. W. Bro. J. Clarke, seconded by V. W. Bro. James Bain, and

RESOLVED, That the charges as preferred by the Lodge of Antiquity against R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck, be read in Grand Lodge.

The President of the Board read the charges accordingly.

The following amendment to the report was submitted by R. W. Bro. W. McCabe, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. Murray,

That the report of the Board of General Purposes be amended by striking out the clause relating to the summoning of R. W. Bro. Franck, to attend the February meeting of the Board, and inserting the following in its stead:—

That inasmuch as R. W. Bro. J. C. Franck did not appear to answer the charge preferred against him by certain members of Antiquity Lodge, owing to his having supposed that his appeal, or protest, to the D.D.G.M. was sufficient to stay proceedings, pending the decision of that officer; and, whereas such appeal, or protest was made known to Antiquity Lodge; and whereas the decision of the D. D. G. M. upon such appeal, or protest, was not communicated to R. W. Bro. Franck in time to enable him to appear on the evening fixed by the lodge for investigating the charge against him; and whereas the lodge did then proceed with his trial, in his absence, although his desire and expressed intention to defend himself, either in person or by counsel, was made known to the lodge previous to the trial; and whereas the lodge did nevertheless proceed without having given him an opportunity of defending himself—now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That without attaching any blame to Antiquity Lodge in the premises, the whole matter be referred back to the lodge, with an instruction to summon R. W. Bro. Franck to answer the said charge, and to proceed with his trial thereupon, in order that the accused Brother may have an opportunity of defending himself, and obtain that justice which is a fundamental principle of our time-honored institution, and which every Brother may justly claim as a right.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared in the negative.

A vote of Grand Lodge was taken to adopt the report of the Board, which was declared to be in the affirmative.

V. W. Bro. E. Mitchell, chairman of the committee, submitted, and partially read, the subjoined report on Foreign Correspondence, which was, on motion, received and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of this annual communication.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg to report, that the Grand Secretary laid before them the proceedings of Forty-six Grand Bodies, all of which have been carefully reviewed; and although much of great interest has been unavoidably left out, trust that the following report will meet with the approval of this Grand Lodge.

The following list comprises all the proceedings of Grand Lodges which have been received by your committee:—

1. Alabama.....	1868.	24. New York.....	1868.
2. Arkansas.....	1868.	25. New Brunswick...	1868.
3. California.....	1868.	26. New Hampshire..	1868.
4. Connecticut.....	1868.	27. Nevada.....	1868.
5. ".....	1869.	28. New Jersey.....	1868.
6. Columbia.....	1868.	29. North Carolina...	1868.
7. Delaware.....	1868.	30. Nova Scotia.....	1868.
8. Florida.....	1868.	31. Ohio.....	1868.
9. Georgia.....	1868.	32. Oregon.....	1868.
10. Idaho.....	1868.	33. Pennsylvania.....	1868.
11. Iowa.....	1868.	34. Rhode Island.....	1868.
12. Indiana.....	1868.	35. South Carolina....	1868.
13. Illinois.....	1868.	36. Tennessee.....	1868.
14. Kentucky.....	1868.	37. Texas.....	1868.
15. Kansas.....	1868.	38. Vermont.....	1868.
16. Louisiana.....	1868.	39. Virginia.....	1868.
17. Massachusetts.....	1868.	40. West Virginia.....	1868.
18. Maine.....	1868.	41. Wisconsin.....	1868.
19. Missouri.....	1868.	42. Washington Ter'y	1868.
20. Mississippi.....	1868.	43. Grand Orient Portugal.	
21. Maryland.....	1868.	44. Grand Orient France.	
22. Minnesota.....	1868.	45. Grand Orient Italy.	
23. Michigan.....	1868.	46. Grand Orient Uruguay.	

ALABAMA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient F. and A. Masons of Alabama, commenced its *forty-eighth* annual communication at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Montgomery, on Monday 7th December, A. D. 1868.

Present, the Grand Officers, nine Past Grand Officers, Representatives of nine Grand Lodges and of two hundred and eight subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. George D. Morris, delivered his annual address, from which we extract the following:—

“We have again assembled in Grand Communication in the 48th year of our organization. How many and varied are the changes through which we have passed; but amidst them all our Order stands in grand proportions, as unchanging through political and religious events as the firm primeval rock; its antiquity of origin, from whence memory of man runneth not thither, its purity of purpose, and with life invulnerable, it survives many a stormy era, and although our first Grand Masters have vanished in the misty past, their work still stands in unimperishable *Wisdom, Strength and Beauty*, growing stronger and stronger as the tide of humanity, in endless waves, passes down the way of time; still glorious and beautiful, knowing no time, and steadfast as the bands of Orion.

“Loaded with the charms of antiquity, interested by a thousand associations of history, heroism, and romance, the Order yet possesses all the health and life of novelty; all the liberality and benevolence of reform. It exists in the body and bosom of the people; it catches their sentiments, is modified by their thoughts, and changes with their manners. It partakes of their improvement and adapts itself to all the changes of man.

“Our Order founded on *truth* has for its maker and builder God; then how proper and important is it for us to give unto our great and glorious master-builder our whole hearts in adoration, praise and thanksgiving, for His wonderful works *peace and goodness* for the children of men.”

He refers to two who have “gone the way of all flesh;” that their immortal spirits had gone to realms of ineffable

light, and their tenements of clay to sleep in the dust, until the resurrection morn, when they would be "*raised by the grip of the lion of the tribe of Judah, and be invested with the Master's word, immortal.*"

The first topic recommended to consideration is the establishment of a "Masonic Orphans' Home" in the jurisdiction; suggests that all the surplus funds now in the treasury (\$5,500), and all which may hereafter accrue, be applied to that purpose; and also that all the lodges be charged to add a dollar to each of the degrees for the same purpose.

The next recommendation is, that the Grand Master should be paid his travelling charges, and personally visit all the lodges within the jurisdiction.

He also recommends that the Grand Lodge take action relative to the clothing suitable for the *three degrees*, and forbid the motley appearance so often seen on festival occasions; that the Grand Lodge room be refitted, painted and carpeted, so as to make it comfortable; that the Representatives to the Grand Lodge be paid *mileage* and *per diem* for one from each lodge; that a committee be appointed to take into consideration the propriety of the Act of Incorporation granted by the Legislature to the Grand Lodge in 1859, as there are doubts respecting the "action in law" of such an incorporation upon the peculiar jurisprudence of our Order.

A synopsis of thirty-seven decisions given during the recess is laid before the Grand Lodge, nearly all of which are answered by reference to the Constitution and the practice of every well ordered lodge. Nine dispensations were granted for the formation of new lodges, and one application refused, for want of the proper formalities. He (the G. M.) says that during the year he has written over five hundred letters, and made decisions on nearly three hundred queries besides those reported, in which he had endeavored to be guided strictly by the Ancient Charges and Regulations; ever having the honor and reputation of the ancient Order in view. Application had been made for the exercise of

many "so called prerogatives," which had been refused, firmly holding that the Grand Master was as much bound by the written Constitution (and the *lex non scripta*) as the youngest member of the Order.

The proceedings of forty-two Grand Lodges (Canada included) are given at considerable length. Reports of 200 subordinate lodges are given, with number of members, 10,423; amount of dues, \$1,635 90. The whole number of lodges on the roll are 348. The Grand Treasurer reports:—

Debits, including \$6,020 58 on hand last year,	\$11,526 83
Credits.....	5,213 75

The committee on the subject of a "Masonic Orphans' Home," report favorably, but recommend the collecting of information through the subordinate lodges, as to numbers, &c., who might be probable recipients of the charity, so as to furnish some *data* for proceedings.

The committee appointed to consider the scheme, (recommended by the Grand Master,) of a "Masonic Life Assurance," *disapprove*. "They feel assured that no desire to promote masonic charity will compensate, or authorize a departure from the rule which forbids this body from participating in, or promoting any enterprise essentially private and personal."!

The committee on Finance report, in shape of a resolution, that the fees from members (which was last year reduced to 10 cent,) be raised to 25 cents.

ARKANSAS.

The thirteenth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Arkansas, commenced in the city of Little Rock, at the Masonic Temple, on Monday, the 16th day of November, A. L. 5868, at 7 o'clock P. M.

M. W. Bro. E. H. English, Grand Master, took the chair and opened the Grand Lodge in ample form, with prayer by

the Grand Chaplain, and assisted by the Grand Officers and other members, who occupied their respective places.

ADDRESS OF THE GRAND MASTER.

Who took for his text the following passage :—

“Ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee ; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee : Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee ; and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.”—*Book of the Law ; Job, xii, 7-8.*

His object seemed to be to show that the *Book of Nature* was sufficient to teach all that was required of us, and commences with the following fact, viz : that most of the more interesting features of masonry are *legendary* transmitted to us through successive generations of Craftsmen, from the earliest ages of the world ; from ages when there were neither books nor printing, and that men had to learn wisdom from the great Book of Nature ; but he caps the climax at the outset, his illustrations having rather a *downward* tendency, but quitting his imagery he rises to a more sublime height and gives the following :—

“There are some mysteries which neither the beasts of the field or forest, the fowls of the air, the fishes of the sea, nor earth, with her ten thousand tongues, can solve. But as much of them as man need know, is unfolded by the *Great Light* which lies upon every masonic altar ; and whilst masons are to be students of the ‘Book of Nature,’ the ‘Book of the Law’ is not to be neglected.”

Dispensations had been given during the year to 17 new lodges. The returns are as follows :—

Chartered Lodges 196 ; lodges U. D. 24 ; represented 98 ; returns made 185 ; initiated 677 ; passed 541 ; raised 481 ; admitted 429 ; dimitted 441 ; died 119 ; suspended 152 ; expelled 23 ; members 7,676.

The finances are in a most flourishing state, as follows :—

“Your committee on Grand Secretary and Treasurer’s accounts respectfully report, that the Grand Secretary received during the year ending September 30th, 1868, \$4,588, all of which he properly transferred to the Grand Treasurer, as per vouchers.”

The Grand Lodge appears to devote much of their means and attention to St. John's College, and says: Of the expenditures the sum of \$2,936 46, has been paid to the Trustees of St. John's College.

Many excellent resolutions were passed worthy of a Grand Lodge, and well calculated to add honor to the Craft. We quote one as a sample:—

Resolved, That the many cherished and valuable emblems of our fraternity are, and should be remembered, as being enshrouded with most significant and ennobling lessons, and the members of the Grand Lodge do hereby unanimously condemn the use of masonic emblems upon public signs or other advertisements as a means of inducing custom or patronage to mere business enterprise.

A long address on the benefits of education was delivered before the Grand Lodge by Professor O. C. Gray, of which the following are the heads:—

- 1st. Education greatly adds to our happiness.
- 2nd. Education adds to the virtue of a people.
- 3rd. Education ennobles the mind.
- 4th. Education brings refinement.
- 5th. What shall be the method of Education ?
- 6th. What shall be the extent ?

Those heads are all thoroughly treated in a masterly style.

True masonic harmony prevailed during the session.

CALIFORNIA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of California, commenced its nineteenth annual communication at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Tuesday the 13th day of October, A. L. 5868, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Present—The Grand Officers, 13 Past Grand Officers, representatives of 135 chartered lodges, delegates from four

lodges under dispensation, and a large number of Past Masters entitled to seats.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with music by the choir, and prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Bro. William Abraham Davies, Grand Master.

V. W. Bro. Alexander G. Abell, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master then delivered his Annual Address to the Grand Lodge, as follows:—

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA.

The Supreme Ruler of the Universe has permitted us to meet again in annual convocation; and, before engaging in the business of the session, it is our pleasure to acknowledge our dependence upon Him, to return thanks for the great benefits received at His hands, and to implore His continued blessings upon our time-honored institution.

We have to-day opened the nineteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California. Young among sister Grand Lodges, it occupies a high and honorable position; let it be our purpose so to legislate during the present session that, when our recorded acts shall be added to its history, we need not be ashamed of the result of our labors as workmen of the temple. The history of the past year but repeats the prosperity of its predecessor. Harvests so abundant as to excite the admiration of the world have brought us increased wealth, and strengthened our confidence in the resources and stability of our young State. The year has, in truth, been to us one of peace and abundant prosperity, yet amid its successes we have been called upon to pause in our labors and exclaim, as we deposited the sprig of acacia in the grave of a beloved brother, this is indeed the end of all our building and of all our labor. There is a vacant place in our temple to-day; a column has broken; one of the principal supports of our conscious edifice has fallen; "the silver cord is loosed, the golden bowl is broken, the pitcher is broken at the fountain, the wheel is broken at the cistern; the dust has returned to the earth as it was, and the spirit unto God who gave it." We mourn the loss to-day of brother Henry Hare Hartley, Deputy Grand Master, who departed this life at his home, in Sacramento, on the twelfth day of March last. A special communication of the Grand Lodge was called, and on the

seventeenth of March the last sad tribute of respect and affection was paid to his remains. Brother Hartley had long been identified with us; his name is familiar to all who read our proceedings, as was his manly form and genial countenance to those of you who for the last twelve years have attended our annual meetings. Exemplar of the faith he professed—zealous mason—Christian gentleman—may the sweetness of the summer's last rose linger long over his resting place, and green be his memory forever."

He then refers to several cases of violation of jurisdictional rights, but which had been amicably adjusted; and also to a number of matters entirely local in character and bearing. He had during the year granted six dispensations for the creation of new lodges; seven to permit certain lodges to hold elections at other than the time prescribed by the Constitution, and five to permit the reception, and action upon petitions of rejected applicants, within a less period than twelve months of their rejection, the evidence adduced being to himself satisfactory. He says, he had received several letters enquiring as to physical qualifications. His answer had uniformly been that the applicant must be able not only to conform literally to what the several degrees require of him, but that he must not be dismembered.

"Application was made to me in April last, by one of the lodges, requesting permission to appear in masonic clothing to participate in public procession with the Odd Fellows in celebrating their anniversary. Again, in May, application was made on behalf of another lodge, for permission to celebrate the anniversary of Saint John the Baptist, by a public procession in full regalia, an oration, and ball. Heartily concurring, as I do, in the opinion of Grand Master Belcher, approved by the Grand Lodge, that 'on no occasion, except for the burial of a brother is it permitted for any lodge or number of masons to appear in masonic clothing without permission from the Grand Master, and that permission ought very rarely to be asked or granted;' and with the Grand Master of Maine, who says, in a decision on the same subject: 'we are constrained to say that it is contrary to the usages of the Order, and improper for the Fraternity to take part, in their conventional character, in any public demonstration, except to perform some masonic labor;' and these opinions having been reiterated by Grand Master

Claiborne, and again approved by the Grand Lodge, I hold the same to be the law of the jurisdiction, and have refused the desired permission, where no masonic labor was to be performed, reporting my action for your consideration."

STATISTICS OF THE FRATERNITY.

"To inform brethren, here and elsewhere, as well as the Convention of "old ladies" in pantaloons, who recently assembled in Pittsburg, and resolved that the world should not turn around any longer, except as they pleased, we have compiled from the reports before us, a statement of the goodly number of the Fraternity upon this North American continent. Where we had not received the reports of 1867, we have substituted the numbers as returned in 1866, and in one or two instances were compelled to estimate merely. It will be seen that the number approximates 400,000 'good men and true;' and if our enemies will but take a moral and intellectual census of the same Fraternity, they will find that, as a whole, no class of citizens can take a higher rank for intelligence, patriotism, liberality, and all the virtues that make a good citizen and a faithful, upright man. When the sour visaged 'Maw worms,' who are inaugurating another crusade against masonry and all secret societies, succeed in annihilating this ancient and venerable institution, we hope they will send us word."

The Treasurer's account for the year ending 31st July 1868:

Assets.....	\$17,132
Expenditures, for same period.....	14,127
The Masonic Board of Relief received from all sources, including a balance of \$1,341 from last year.....	8,603
And had disbursed in charities.....	7,461

Distributed amongst 100 masons from various parts of the world—5 from England, 2 from France, 2 from Germany, 4 from Ireland, 6 from Scotland, and the balance from the United States, but *none* from Canada.

CONNECTICUT.

The eightieth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut was held at the Masonic Hall, in the

city of Hartford, commencing on 13th May, A. L. 5868.

M. W. William Storor, Grand Master; Joseph Wheeler, Grand Secretary.

The opening part of the Grand Master's address is worthy of perusal by every Craftsman. It commences thus:—

“Through the abounding goodness of our Supreme Grand Master, we are permitted again to meet in annual communication, and to unite (as it was fitting that we should,) in a tribute of thanksgiving for His providential care that has been over us during another year, and in invoking the guidance of His blessed Spirit on this interesting occasion.

“These annual gatherings are indeed occasions of deep interest, and their importance cannot but be appreciated by those who study the principles of our Institution, and endeavor to exemplify its teachings in their daily intercourse with the world. We meet not as politicians, to concoct schemes of party triumph or selfish aggrandizement. We meet not as speculators in bonds and stocks, to try our skill in overreaching and circumventing our neighbors—to strive for the accumulation of wealth at the expense of our less crafty fellows. We meet not as sectarians, who too often, under the guise of solicitude for the welfare of their fellow-men, have a greater desire to build on the ruins of others equally deserving as themselves. Nor do we meet as the votaries of pleasure, to while away a few hours in pursuit of phantom, which, however industriously pursued, is sure to elude their grasp. Ours is a nobler purpose than any of these. We meet on the broad platform of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love. We meet to exchange fraternal greetings; to form new and strengthen old attachments; to encourage one another in well-doing; to perfect plans of benevolence; to legislate for the government and perpetuity of an Institution which has been the admiration of the world almost from the earliest existence of human society—an Institution which has ever gone in advance of civilization, fostering and patronizing and building up the Arts—which has developed Science, and thus ameliorated the moral, social, religious condition of humanity—an Institution reared on the broad and solid foundation of Fraternal Charity, and whose capstone is inscribed with the glorious motto, ‘Good will to man!’

“Freemasonry is something more than a mere system of

forms and ceremonies. It is a living reality—a tangible good; and while it does not claim to be religion, or even a substitute for religion, it has, nevertheless, a direct tendency to make all men better who will practice its teachings. It inculcates every virtue, and discountenances every vice. It teaches its votaries to be temperate in all things; to be fearless, though not reckless, in maintaining the right; to be cautious and prudent in the indulgence of thought, word and action; to practice the strictest and most inflexible integrity in all his dealings. It is a noble science, and opens to the searcher for truth an unfathomable depth of knowledge. He who most diligently pursues the profound study of masonry, is most thoroughly aware that there is much more yet to be learned."

The topics which follow are purely local, referring to visits, dispensations, decisions, &c., &c., but breathing throughout the benevolent spirit so fully displayed at the outset.

The report on foreign correspondence reviews the reports of forty-seven Grand Lodges, amongst which Canada is not overlooked. They say of Canada:—"The committee on foreign correspondence reviews the proceeding of 35 Grand Lodges in a very creditable manner, and we regret that Connecticut *was not included*."

The returns of subordinate lodges serve to give an idea of the operations of this Grand Lodge, as follows:—Initiations, 1,000; whole number of members, 11,957. Amount of dues to Grand Lodge, \$1,500.

CONNECTICUT—1869.

The Eighty-first Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Connecticut, was held at the Temple in the City of New Haven, commencing on the 12th day of May, A. D. 1869.

Present—M. W. Bro. Storer, Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Joseph R. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, the other Grand Officers and a large number of Representatives.

The M. W. Grand Master's address commences thus :—

“The rapid flight of time has brought us another stage in the journey of life ; and we are again permitted to assemble in this sanctuary, which has been consecrated as a resting place for the masonic pilgrims. We have bowed around the mercy-seat, and united in a tribute of thanksgiving to Him who has strengthened and guided and sustained us in the labors and trials of another year, and besought the enlightening influence of His blessed Spirit in the performance of the important duties now before us. Allow me, my beloved brethren, to congratulate you on your safe arrival in this sacred retreat, and to extend to each of you a cordial and fraternal welcome to this our annual feast. I see around me many familiar faces, and have been permitted to return the fraternal grasp of scores with whom I have been accustomed to take counsel in years gone by ; and yet I find myself surrounded by a multitude of strangers—younger brethren, who have just entered on “the great and glorious work”—whose feet have just been placed on the lower rounds of the ladder—who have yet to climb the rugged ascent to the pinnacle of our Mystic Temple, and many of whom, I fondly trust, will yet occupy exalted positions in our ranks, and whose example in after life will shed far and wide the enlightening and warming and vivifying rays of pure masonic light. But, brethren, young and old,—the more humble as well as the most exalted—I bid you all a warm-hearted, old-fashioned masonic welcome.”

The other topics referred to in the address are local, such as dedications, installations, visits to subordinate lodges, dispensations and decisions.

Forty Grand Lodges are in correspondence with this M. W. Grand Lodge, on all of which the committee on foreign correspondence make neat and appropriate remarks. What is principally noticed as regards Canada is M. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson's remarks on those who looked on masonry as a “Benefit Club.” The remarks of the committee are worthy of notice ; they say :—“In submitting this report, we would say that we have endeavored to be as brief as possible, and render justice to those whose proceedings have come to our hands ; and should any of our readers conclude that we have failed in our endeavors to condense, we have

only to say to them, *come and try it*, and we will guarantee that before you get half through you will begin to think *you are making too much work for the printers.*"

There is a return from 93 subordinate lodges; members 12,784. The "grim king" has been at work among them; they record no less than 75 deaths. The Grand Secretary's receipts for the year were \$1,598.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The fifty-eight Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the District of Columbia, was opened at Central Masonic Hall, Washington, on Tuesday, 3rd November, A. L. 5868, at 7 o'clock, P. M. M. W. Bro. B. B. French, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. N. D. Larner, Grand Secretary.

A special communication had been held on the 17th and 19th March, on account of the death, and attending the funeral of M. W. Past Grand Master Bro. Wm. M. Ellis. Also on the 9th, 14th and 15th April, for the dedication of a statue of the late President Lincoln, erected by the citizens of Washington in front of the City Hall; and laying the corner stone of the Metropolitan Presbyterian Church, Capitol Hill. Another special communication was held on the 20th May, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of their Masonic Temple. The ceremonies of which are given in full.

An account is also given of the "Installation Communication," on St. John's Day, at which a parting address was delivered by the retiring Grand Master, full of good counsel and encouragement.

The semi-annual communication was held on the 5th May.

At the semi-annual and annual communications the M. W. Grand Master delivered addresses, containing much that is good and useful, but all of a purely local character. He says that a number of questions had been presented to him

for his decision, but none of them so important as to require to be submitted to Grand Lodge. He says also that it has come to his knowledge that various question were *floating*—as it were—and might ultimately come before them officially, but he hopes that the harmony of the jurisdiction may not be unnecessarily disturbed by the attempt to make *mountains* out of *mole-hills*, which is too often the case among the societies of the world. He says:—

“Let us remember that although we are brethren we are men, and subject to all the frailties of humanity. That we may all err, for it is the characteristic of mortality; and while we know that ‘to err is human,’ let us never forget the remainder of the poet’s sentiment, ‘to forgive, divine.’

“The time will never come on this earth, until the arrival of the millenium, when men will not be found going wrong. We are all the subjects of passion, of prejudice, of indiscretion. If we mean to live harmoniously, we must exercise charity, we must subdue passion, and we must look upon the failings of our fellow men, and especially of our Brothers, as to be forgiven instead of to be reproached and trumpeted to the world.

‘Then gently scan your brother man,
And gentler sister woman,
Though ye may gang a kenning wrang,
To step aside is human.’

“This was said by a poet and a brother mason; and now, when we cannot disguise the fact that feelings do exist among the brethren of this jurisdiction that are not creditable to the Craft, let us all strive to overcome them ourselves, and to earnestly inculcate the sentiments expressed in these quotations, and cast the mantle of charity and forgiveness over the errors of our misguided brethren.”

The committee on foreign correspondence acknowledge the receipt of reports from thirty-six Grand Lodges, our own included; they review the proceedings of thirteen of those Lodges.

There are sixteen subordinate lodges in the jurisdiction, with 2,380 members. Assets for the year, (including a

balance from last year of \$1,836,) \$3,522. Disbursements, \$2,757; balance, \$765.

The retiring Grand Master having positively declined a re-election, M. W. Bro. R. B. Donaldson was elected Grand Master, and R. W. Bro. N. D. Lerner, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

The sixty-second annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons, of the State of Delaware, was held at the Freemasons' Hall, in the City of Wilmington, on the 27th day of June, A. L. 5868. The M. W. Bro. D. McClintock, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master's address commences as follows:—

“BRETHREN,—On opening the 62nd annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, we are reminded that another year has passed away never to return. It behooves us therefore to look back upon that lapsed time, and consider whether the sublime teachings of our Order have been lived up to, and whether we have been made better men from its influence. While many have been called, let us return our heartfelt thanks to a kind and merciful Providence, that we have been spared—spared I trust to labor for the advancement of our beloved Order, whose teachings, if obeyed, cannot fail to make us wiser and better men, and ultimately prepare us for that Grand Lodge above presided over forever by our most great and glorious Grand Master, God. In reviewing our acts of the past year, should there appear to be any omissions or errors on our part, let us from this day forward profit by our past experience and shun all that is erroneous, and be guided in future by that Great Light that we, as masons, are continually taught to revere.”

After an eulogium to the memory of some worthy brethren that had gone to the “Grand Lodge above” during the year, he observes that in consequence of having secured the services of a most efficient Grand Secretary, their affairs were in a more flourishing state than heretofore; and one of the results was the exchange of fraternal greetings with

all the sister Grand Lodges. Their financial statements tell plainly that they had been unfortunate in the selection of some former financial officers, but seem to have good prospects of success for the future. They seem to have only seventeen subordinate lodges, but have prospects of an increase soon.

One point to which the M. W. Grand Master refers in his address deserves notice. He says:—

“Since our last annual communication, many applications have been made to me for dispensations to confer degrees in less than the regular required time.

“I have become thoroughly convinced that cases of emergency, sufficient to warrant the use of this, one of the prerogatives of the Grand Master’s office, in our jurisdiction rarely, if ever, occur. I have become so thoroughly convinced of this fact that I have granted—*none*.

“Permit me, however, to advance a few arguments in favor of this policy. My experience and observation, and an examination of the minutes of some of the old lodges, have convinced me that ‘dispensation masons,’ if you will permit the term, seldom, if ever, are of much use to their Mother Lodge. They are generally drones in the hive, tendering nothing to her support, and sent out to sister jurisdictions to show how little they know, and to be unmercifully flogged by ‘masonic swindlers and imposters.’ Is it not strange that a man who has lived, probably, for thirty, forty or more years almost within sound of the gavel, should all at once, when about to change his residence, or from some other cause, become so thoroughly impressed with the beauty and utility of our beloved Order? Whether masonry will be of use or benefit to such a one or not is a matter to which we, as masons, should be most supremely indifferent. While I know that such is, by right, a prerogative of the office I trust future Grand Masters will, in the main, discountenance it.”

In regard to masonic burial the following may be interesting. The Grand Master says:—

“My opinion was recently asked by one of the lodges interested, as to the propriety of burying a suicide with masonic honors. As I knew of no regulation on the subject

I gave an opinion, depending upon the circumstances of the case. If the act committed was in order to escape execution or imprisonment for crime, of which the party had been convicted by a Court of Justice, (which would deprive him of masonic fellowship,) or through intemperance on excess, then I think clearly it would be improper. But if from insanity, temporary or otherwise, brought on by sickness, grief, or, as in this case, by honorable wounds received in the line of his duty, then I think it would be proper that he should receive the full benefit of masonic burial."

There are complaints of want of uniformity in the working of the subordinate lodges, but Grand Lodge seems to be doing all in its power to remedy that defect.

There is appended the ceremony of laying the corner stone of a Town Hall at Middletown, Delaware, closed by an oration by Rev. Dr. McCabe.

FLORIDA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Florida, convened at the Masonic Hall in the City of Tallahassee on Monday, 13th January, A. L. 5868.

R. W. Bro. Edward Bradford, jun., Grand Master *pro. tem.*;
R. W. Bro. Hugh A. Corley, Grand Secretary.

M. W. Bro. Henry J. Stewart, Grand Master, transmitted his address, which was full of brotherly kindness and charity, and many parts of which deserve marked attention. Our space will not permit us to give it in full, but we cull a few extracts:—

"Let us, upon entering upon the discharge of those duties, invoke the aid of Deity. Let us remember that our trust is in Him, and that by His assistance the entrance to our inner Temple may be so strongly guarded that no evil thought may enter, no angry passion arise, no word escape to mar the peace and harmony of this communication, but that all our deliberations and debates be tempered with wisdom, justice and moderation; for we are brothers.

"Let us remember that as light emanates from the Sun, and, reflected by the lesser bodies revolving around it, illuminates the world, so should we think and speak, conduct and deport ourselves that light may emanate from this Grand Body by which, when reflected by the lesser bodies (the subordinates) revolving around it, this entire Grand jurisdiction may become illuminated.

"The condition of our once happy country is deplorable indeed. We have passed through a severe and trying ordeal. But the din of musketry is no longer heard on the tented field, the clash of arms has ceased, and although there may still be strife in the political arena, yet our Northern brethren have reached forth their hands for fraternal fellowship saying, 'Peace be unto you.' Not doubting, as Thomas did the Saviour, we eagerly grasped those hands thus extended, and bid them welcome into our holy temples and around our sacred altars. Thus has the wound been healed, the widow's heart made to rejoice, and the orphan's tear wiped away. How pleasing, then, and delightful the thought to him who can claim to belong to an Order fraught with so much influence, and so wonderful in its character.

"But, you ask, what can masonry do? It can, in the true spirit of its original design and its sublime lessons, forgive the past where it was a fault; it can, in the superabundance of its charity, sympathize with our unfortunate brethren of the South—it can mourn with them over their devastated plantations, their razed mansions, and the smoking ruins of their cities and villages; it can drop the tear with them over their bloody battle-fields, and the graves of their sires, their sons, and their brethren, albeit they fell in arms against the North. This last it is human to remember, but not to cherish is masonic. To forget, it is noble; to forgive, it is divine. Perhaps, if in the pure spirit of masonry we were to put to ourselves under the same stringent rule of accusation and condemnation to which we subject others, we might in many respects become supplicants for forgiveness. Have we all so far satisfied our own consciences individually as to enable us to look up to the Throne of God with confidence and hope of forgiveness and say, 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'"

The assets of the Grand Lodge for the year were \$2,610:40. Disbursements, \$2,352:80. A report is given of 44 subordinate lodges, having a total membership of 1,783.

The principal business of the communication seems to have been the preparation of a Constitution.

GEORGIA.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia was convened in the Masonic Hall, in the City of Macon, on the 27th October, A. L. 5868.

M. W. Bro. John Harris, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Simri Rose, Grand Secretary, and other Grand Officers being present. Also five Past Grand Officers, sixteen Past Masters, and a large number of Representatives from subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's address is almost exclusively confined to local matters, but is full of earnestness and brotherly kindness. We quote the concluding paragraphs as a specimen:—

“Forty years ago I first knelt at our sacred altar and received the first light in masonry. Being deeply impressed with the sublime principles of the Order and its excellent teachings, it has been my desire through life to be guided by its landmarks, and with zealous efforts to cultivate and practice those virtues which preserve and adorn the masonic character. If I have committed errors, they were of the head and not of the heart, and I ask that you cover them with the broad mantle of masonic charity, recollecting that ‘it is human to err, but divine to forgive.’

“Accept in fraternal kindness, my best wishes for your individual happiness, and for the honor, peace and prosperity of our beloved institution. Most humbly and sincerely do I invoke the blessings of our Heavenly Father upon your deliberations; and that when our labors shall be ended in our councils here below, we may all meet in that Grand Lodge above, and be received as true and faithful servants by Him who has guided and protected us through our labors here.

“And permit me now, brethren, to request of you that this high honor, which you through your kindness have so often bestowed on me, be conferred on some other brother, who may serve you with more ability but not more faithfully. Duty to myself and to the Fraternity admonishes me to decline a re-election.”

There are 270 chartered lodges, and 3 under dispensation.

The committee on grievances report on several cases of delinquency; but it is pleasing to find that they restore nearly as many as they expel, and like many more of our sister Lodges complaints are often frivolous and vexatious.

The D. D. Grand Masters' report for the most part favorably on the lodges under their care. Many questions on jurisprudence and by-laws had been referred to them; but nothing [out of the usual run of such applications and answers.

The Grand Lodge is in correspondence with forty-nine sister Grand Lodges, including Scotland, England and Peru. The proceedings of thirty-four of which are reviewed—our own included.

The assets for the year were \$19,737; disbursements about \$17,000, which includes \$3,000 to the Masonic Female College, and \$6,231 mileage and per. diem. expenses to delegates.

IDAHO.

A Convention of A. F. and A. Masons, delegated by the several lodges in the Territory of Idaho, assembled in the Masonic Hall, Idaho City, on the 16th December, A.L. 5867, for the purpose of establishing a Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. Masons for that Territory, when a Constitution was adopted, various preliminaries settled and Grand Officers appointed as follows:—W. Bro. George H. Coe, M. W. Grand Master; W. Bro. George W. Paul, Deputy Grand Master; W. Bro. P. E. Edmondson, Grand Secretary.

The first annual communication commenced at the Masonic Hall in Idaho City on Monday, 22nd June, A. L. 5868, at 10 o'clock A. M. Present, the Grand Officers, representatives from five chartered lodges and several Past Masters entitled to seats in Grand Lodge. This being the first annual communication, the principal matters on hand were, reviewing the Constitution, preparing By-laws, standing orders, &c.

IOWA.

The twenty-fifth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Iowa, was held at Des Moines, on 2nd June, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Reuben Mickel, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Theodore S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

From the Grand Master's address, which is very long, we extract the following :—

“You have come up here from every part of the State, as the honored representatives of the various subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction, to consult together for the best interest of the Royal Craft, and although some of you are here for the first time, and even as strangers, yet that bond of universal brotherhood that binds together this great fraternity, wherever dispersed, will soon cement you together as familiar friends, as you are already members of the same great and rapidly increasing family. On behalf of the Grand Lodge I welcome you. May your intercourse be pleasant and profitable, and your deliberations productive of the greatest good.

“My pursuits in life having of necessity partaken more of a practical than of a literary character, you will, I trust, pardon the absence of the graces of rhetoric and allow me, in the briefest and most business-like manner to lay before you a report of my official acts during the past year.”

The Grand Master proceeds, and touches on many important points, in the following order: Dispensations granted during the year for twenty-one new lodges; dedication of four Masonic Halls; four dispensations for laying corner stones; a large number of decisions on important points in masonic jurisprudence are given, and which are doubtless in accordance with the constitution and regulations of that Grand Lodge.

The returns exhibit, lodges enrolled, 432; under dispensation, 7; members returned, 9,774; Grand Lodge receipts, \$7,509 25; disbursements, \$5,034 92; cash in treasury, \$7,987 86.

INDIANA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Indiana, assembled in annual communication at the Grand Masonic Hall, in the City of Indianapolis, on Tuesday, the 26th day of May, A. L. 5868. M. W. Bro. Harvey G. Hazelrig, Grand Master.

The Grand Master's address is long, occupying 25 closely printed pages, and is full of interesting matter. His preamble is as follows:—

“How pleasant it is to assemble together at our annual communications, and extend to each other a cordial and friendly greeting, that keeps bright the chain of fraternal kindness that unites us in one indissoluble band of brothers; to promote the happiness and welfare of the household of the faithful, and ameliorate, as far as in us lies, the condition of universal humanity; to bow at our sacred altar and give thanks to the great I AM for His kind providence vouchsafed to us since last we met, and to implore his guidance in the discharge of every duty incumbent upon us while sojourning in this vale of sorrow, afflictions and disappointments, that when our race is ended we may be admitted to the society of that better world where we shall no more ‘take the parting hand.’

He then announces that he received the proceedings of over thirty sister Grand Lodges.

The principal topics to which his address refers, are Masonic Jurisprudence and the “Landmarks.” He says, that perhaps there is no point in the whole range of masonic jurisprudence, about which there is less uniformity of opinion amongst jurists, than as to what these *landmarks* are. Some have enumerated *twenty-five*, others have restricted them to *fifteen*, while some have tried to double the last mentioned number. One thing that seems to call forth many of his remarks is a doctrine held by some of the sister lodges, that the Grand Master has the prerogative of making masons “at sight;” that he explains to mean, making them at any time and place he may choose. On which he makes the following remarks:—

"A committee of the most learned masons of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, at the head of which was Past Grand Master Fellows, in a report which was adopted by the Grand Lodge, says:—'Your committee are of the opinion, that the only written landmarks are those in the Ancient Charges of the Order, forming part of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge; and the unwritten, those contained in the ceremonies of initiation, and the ties which bind us together as masons; nor is it thought proper by legislation, to make any new obligations, with penalties attached, nor for a lodge at least to attempt by resolution, to define the landmarks of the Order.' That there are laws of the fraternity as unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, no well informed mason for a moment doubts; but what those laws are, will perhaps be definitely settled simultaneously with the finding of the philosopher's stone, and from present prospects, I fear not much before; but be that as it may, after a close and laborious examination of all the old Constitutions, Charges, Regulations and Landmarks—I don't mean those of the present century,—I find not one word about Grand Masters making masons at sight, as I understand the words to mean. I am therefore forced to the conclusion that such a power *does not now, nor ever did exist*, except when given by the Grand Lodge itself, from which the Grand Master derived his office, and not believing that Grand Lodges are omnipotent, I very much doubt whether they are—as we now understand the the relation between Grand and subordinate Lodges—competent to grant such a power; however I would not covet the task of undertaking to successfully defend such a power.

"It may be well here to define what I understand to be meant by making masons at sight. I understand it to be, the Grand Master taking the candidate to some appropriate place and there, either alone, or with such aid as he may summon or be able to procure, make him a mason. If we have that reverence for old regulations which we ought and all profess to have, a mason can be made no where by Grand Master or any one else, but in a regular lodge. In 1663, under the Grand Mastership of the Earl of St. Albans, it was solemnly declared, "That no person of what degree soever, be made or accepted a Free Mason, unless in a regular lodge, whereof one to be a Master or a Warden in that limit or division where such lodge is kept, and another to be a craftsman in the trade of Free Masonry." Again: "That no person hereafter who shall be accepted a Free Mason, shall be admitted into any lodge or assembly, until he has brought

a certificate of the time and place of his acceptance from the *lodge* that accepted him, unto the Master of that limit or division where such lodge is kept.' ”

He argues at great length—what masons well know—that a landmark, when known to be so, is immutable; and says that, “a distinguished Past Grand Master of Kentucky, Bro. Robt. Morris, who has contributed much to the masonic literature of this country, in a publication of Masonic Laws, gives perhaps as near a correct definition of the unchangeable laws of masonry as we have. He says they are, first, ‘the boundaries set up as checks to innovation; second, those peculiar marks of distinction by which masons are separated from the profane, and by which they are enabled to designate their inheritance as Sons of Light; third, those immemorial laws which have been handed down from age to age, and from generation to generation, no one knowing when they originated, and no one having a right to alter or change them.’ ”

After discussing many points of jurisprudence and Grand Masters’ prerogatives—inherent in themselves as Grand Masters, independent of powers granted by the Grand Lodge,—he makes some hard hits at what he calls the *accumulation* of degrees, thus:—

“In some locations there is a great penchant for an accumulation of degrees. Their name, although not legion, yet there is a goodly batch of them. I can but smile when I recollect in my early masonic days, of hearing talk of Knights of Constantinople, Secret Monitor, Heroine of Jericho, Confidence Degrees, Mason’s Daughter, Sister, Mother, Eastern Star, and who knows how many more—in none of which do I suppose there is one particle of ancient Craft Masonry; if there is it has clandestinely got there. I hope none of the brethren will ask if I have taken all these so-called degrees, and to keep them from it I will say in advance that I have seen some of them communicated. There is in ancient Craft Masonry, and that is what we profess, but three degrees; and as an organized body of such, we can recognize but them. Should I be asked what is that about which our Grand Lodge has legislated so much, called the Past Master’s degree, I would answer that as a Master

Mason I neither do nor can know anything about it, unless it is the fact of having been duly elected and presided over a lodge of Master Masons."

The address altogether is so full of masonic science, of well matured thought, and contains so much of practical experience, that we are sorry our space will not permit giving it *verbatim*, and we must say that *culling* is a difficult task, being obliged to leave more than we have taken.

Twenty-one charters had been issued by order of the last communication, and twenty-two dispensations granted during the year for new lodges. The Grand Treasurer had on hand at last annual statement, \$5,018 19; and had received during the year, \$9,463 85—total, \$14,482 04. He had paid out, \$9,512 70; and had on hand, \$4,939 64.

ILLINOIS.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Illinois met in annual communication, in the Hall of the House of Representatives in the City of Springfield, on Tuesday, the 6th day of October, A. L. 5868, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Present, M. W. Bro. Jerome R. Gorin, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Harman G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary, and a large number of representatives from subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master delivered his address, commencing as follows:—

"Masonry teaches us that, 'before entering upon any great or important undertaking, it is necessary to invoke the blessing of God.' When we reflect that, in answer to our prayers at the close of the last communication of this Grand Body, we have been abundantly blessed through another masonic year with health and peace throughout our borders, with a bountiful supply of everything necessary to our earthly comfort—with rich and superabundant harvests, the reward of honest labor, insomuch that under their weight the earth fairly groans—ought not our hearts swell with emotions of gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts, and our souls break forth in praise to Him for His watchful care over us.

"We have met again in annual grand communication, without any conflicting interests to disturb the harmony of our deliberations. We meet, I trust, 'in the unity of the spirit and the bond of peace.' In view of these facts, and in harmony with my own feelings, and I have no doubt with yours also, I deem it highly appropriate to repeat in your hearing that good old psalm, so familiar to you all: 'Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity; it is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments. As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded a blessing, even life forevermore.' This psalm seems to me more beautiful than it ever did before, and in repeating it, the tender chords of the heart are moved and vibrate as they are touched by the beauteous sentiment; and the swelling breezes from heaven as they glide gently along, catch the inspiration, and the soul is filled with sweet music, rich with melodious sounds, causing our entire emotional nature to be moved while contemplating that God is Love."

During the year thirty-six dispensations were issued to form new lodges. This is followed by local matters, amongst others the subject of building a Grand Lodge Hall. The lodges within the jurisdiction are reported in a prosperous condition, and can boast of 30,000 affiliated members, with about 600 subordinate lodges.

The finance committee report on the Grand Secretary's account, that he has received \$23,410 27.

The statistics of this Grand Lodge are interesting, but we are sorry that they give no *synoptical* statements. While we feel gratified by receiving communications, we must say that our time will not permit the counting of their lodges, or the adding up of their numerous columns of figures.

Besides the reports on their correspondence with sister Grand Lodges on the American Continent, they have a number of reports from the European Continent, which are noticed in a *faithful* and friendly manner. These are from France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Prussia, Hanover, &c. The proceedings of those Grand Lodges are given at length.

The most of what they contain does not much concern us, excepting that they enhance in our estimation (or ought so to do) the freedom and independence which we enjoy, so far separated from political prejudices and sectarian peculiarities, that we can meet all masons on the *level* and part on the *square*.

KENTUCKY.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky was begun and held at the Masonic Temple, in the City of Louisville, on Monday, 19th October, A. L. 5868.

The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Elisha S. Fitch, delivered an address, which is long, extending over twenty closely printed pages. He commences by noticing the gratification arising from meeting so large and enthusiastic an assembly of Craftsmen; that such a general and intelligent representation of subordinate lodges gives authority to the proceedings, and is also significant of a commendable zeal and earnestness for promoting the principles and advancing the mission of the venerable institution. He notices that it is as alike grateful to the mind and sense to withdraw for a time from the outside world, and enter the sacred precincts of the Mystic Temple, where "brethren dwell together in unity." He says:

"We have much to encourage us, not only in our own jurisdiction and in our own country, but also in foreign jurisdictions, and indeed generally among all nations of the earth, as well as the isles of the sea. * * * *
The moral enterprize of the age is bounding forward on its high and glorious career with a quickened energy and a gathering impetus, which betokens the most triumphant success. The manifest decline of *absolutism*, both in Church and State—the general wane of despotic power and prerogative—the diffusion of civil and religious liberty—the practical recognition of the the 'Fatherhood of God' and the 'Brotherhood of Man,' resulting from the extended dominion of a genuine, an elevated *Bible* civilization—may all be

justly hailed as the sure precursors of masonic prosperity and progress. Turning from this general view to contemplate our own immediate jurisdiction, we are happy to announce a steadily increasing prosperity of the Craft within our borders. *Peace* and *harmony* have prevailed almost without interruption in all our subordinate lodges since we last met in Grand communication, and the few exceptional cases have presented no serious difficulties."

It is noted that a lively interest is manifested in favor of a higher standard of practical morality among Freemasons, which naturally leads to another most desirable result—the exercise of greater caution and discrimination in the admission of candidates. Also that notwithstanding the general embarrassments of the country, the charitable enterprises had not been abandoned or neglected, but on the contrary, their claims responded to in a spirit of commendable liberality.

Dispensations were granted for the formation of fourteen new lodges, one of which had been revoked for good cause shown. During the year several dormant lodges had been revived, and the brethren resumed their work with much energy and good prospects of usefulness and success. Innumerable applications had been made for dispensations to confer degrees *out of time*—to establish a sort of "lightning express" over the old masonic track, but which had been uniformly and persistently refused. It appears this *prerogative* is restricted by a resolution of Grand Lodge; but if it had not been, the Grand Master does not believe in any such a course; he fears they are making more members of the Order than *masons*. Nor does he believe in "prerogatives" at all, excepting such as are delegated to him by Grand Lodge, the creature of which he simply considers himself to be, and has no patience or sympathy with that "elastic, intangible, nondescript something called prerogative," but thinks it something next of *kin* to the *divine* right of kings, or the infallibility of the Pope—belonging to the same category and liable to the same abuse.

The *secret* ballot is strongly urged as a safeguard, provided

secrecy be maintained, but when otherwise discord and contention are the inevitable results. Among other unmasonic practices the use of the emblems as an advertising medium is strongly condemned, such as signboards with cross-keys, cross-pens, cross-swords, masonic lights, and sometimes emblazoning a section of the Master's carpet, and some go so far as to use the *All-seeing Eye* for a trade mark; all intended to attract the notice of the unwary—a most disreputable practice and a gross perversion of the use of the emblems. Akin to this, but not quite so offensive perhaps, is the displaying of masonic jewelry on the person, but this has become so indiscriminate, extending even to the juveniles; it is thought that under the influence of the burlesque it will correct itself. An excess of legislation is referred to as perhaps, a fault of the age. It is wisely recommended to the office bearers of subordinate lodges to make themselves better acquainted with the constitution and by-laws, ignorance of which is for the most part the cause of the troubles arising in these lodges. It is said that with no *light* emanating from the *East* it is no wonder the Craft should sometimes lose sight of the landmarks, and be found engaged upon designs foreign to our masonic trestle-board—some because they find temperance a cardinal virtue of the Craft, would have the lodge converted into a "total abstinence society," others, partizan in their political affinities, carry the torch of sectional discord to the lodge ready to throw it flaming upon the altar; while a third class, under some peculiar dogma of religious faith, can scarcely conceal their anxiety to establish a sort of ecclesiastical court in the vestibule of the Temple. "It is high time that this *one idealism* should be rebuked, and banished from our midst; that masons everywhere should ignore such pernicious and unfraternal dogmatism." Reference is made to incorporation by the legislature of the State of subordinate lodges—an idea which seems to prevail in this and other jurisdictions, and which for many good reasons given, is looked upon as a practice of doubtful propriety.

Steps are in progress by the Grand Lodge for the establishment of a Widows' Home and Infirmary. Notice is taken in a very feeling and impressive manner of the death of the late Grand Chaplain, Bishop Forsythe, and recommends a mourning page to be devoted to his memory, and a suitable inscription prepared by the lodge.

The address concludes with a history of the Grand Lodge from the commencement to the present time; condemning the losing sight of the ancient landmarks, and introducing innovations. We quote the following:—

“The only religion of masonry is to believe in God, and obey the moral laws; her only politics to be peaceable subjects to the civil powers, and obedient to the laws of the land in which we live. The Great Light of Masonry must be her only creed, the Constitution of our Country her only political platform.”

The Grand Lodge is in correspondence with forty-eight Grand Lodges, including England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Italy, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Canada.

Reported, 475 subordinate lodges under charter; 11 U.D. Members, 18,972; payments, \$18,580 50. Total credits, Treasurer's account, (a large portion of which is for payment and mileage to representatives,) \$28,780 34. Total debits, \$28,733 26; balance due Treasurer, \$443 08. The resources of the lodge, in mortgages, bank stock and other bonds and stock in Masonic Temple, \$78,450 00; less balance due Treasurer, \$443 08—total resources, \$78,006 92,

KANSAS.

The thirteenth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Kansas, convened in the City of Lawrence, on Tuesday, 20th October, A. L. 5868:—M. W. Bro. M. S. Adams, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. E. T. Carr, Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand Master as a whole is local in its

character; but his concluding remarks are worthy of note:

“Masonry supposes the candidates for its honors in some degree intelligent, and requires them, if meaning to be true men, to extend that intelligence steadily while within an earthly lodge. In other words, masonry is knowledge, not merely of rituals, but of science, physical, political, and moral; and demands a fair share of every brother's time for its mastery. Without such attainment, no man can expect to fulfil his duties to his fellow men, to his family, or his Maker. Let the young brother mark this, and each day set apart a portion of time for that thorough self-culture everywhere inculcated in our instructions, and so vital to the perfection expected of him who has thoughtfully entered upon a masonic life. He will find, let me assure him, work enough for his earlier years, enough for his mature manhood—yes, work enough till the last sand be down.

“Ours is an age of improvement in every department of life, and whoever does not catch its spirit and respond to its inspiration, I will not say is wholly unfit for masonic honors, but must be content to occupy a very low place in his lodge, while seeing those of more energy and sharper insight prominent in the Order, and selected as exponents of its creeds, and the public dispensers of its blessings. On this side of the ocean there is no rest—all is motion, all is activity. Can we not keep pace with this spirit? Can we not, and should we not, *lead* in every beneficent enterprise, and in the van of human improvement open up a new way to success for those overwhelmed by public or private misfortune? Have we not the power to bind up the broken heart, to hush the lamentation of grief, to still the wail of the little mourner, and restore those erring to the straight and narrow path?”

The committee on foreign correspondence report on 35 Grand Lodges. The Treasurer's report shows the receipts including balance on hand, \$1,742 89; disbursements, \$799, leaving in the treasury, \$943 89. There are 71 subordinate lodges; number of members, 1,287.

LOUISIANA.

The fifty-sixth annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana commenced in the City of New Orleans, on Monday, 10th February, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Abel J. Monroe, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. James C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary.

The address is chiefly taken up with a report of the proceedings of the Grand Master and his deputies amongst the subordinate lodges, but interesting enough as local matters, and impressed with true earnestness and zeal worthy of a Grand Master; and the following paragraphs are well worth being noticed:—

“The angel of death has been hovering over our State, our cities, our towns and villages, and country places have felt his chilling presence, and many an aching heart and lonely hearth-stone mourn the departure of loved ones during the year just closed. Neither bright intellect, nor lovely form, nor high character, nor modest worth hath sufficed to turn aside the fatal shaft, but all alike have yielded, and now mingle in the dust. But we thank God that in these times of sad visitations, of desolation and sorrow, the brightest features of our nature come forth, and Charity and Benevolence, with constant vigils and tender hands, strive hard to equal the necessity.

“The Good Samaritan still lives, and our noble institution is no laggard in her ministrations to the sick and sorrowful.

“If I have learned masonry aright, ‘to be good and to do good,’ is an epitome of the lessons she teaches, of the moral standard she erects, and to which she invites and urges all her children to attain. The records, if not the report, of our Relief Lodge, and I trust the unwritten records of each brother’s heart, will show that we have not been deaf to the calls of brotherly-love and relief. Then, brethren, let us not tire in well-doing, and while we may and ought to be earnest in our searches and researches after the truth, let us not forget the practical part of our faith.

“Brotherly-love and relief may be felt and practiced by all, from the highest to the lowest, while perhaps a few glimpses of the true masonic truth may be now and then

caught by our brightest intellects who have the time and ability to delve deep and long into the hidden mysteries of nature."

The Grand Treasurer's assets are \$40,621 68; disbursements, \$38,987 19; and by additional assets from the Grand Secretary, the balance on hand is \$7,539 29.

Returns received from 132 lodges, which in general are encouraging to the Craft. The committee on foreign correspondence report the receipt of printed proceedings from 36 Grand Lodges—Canada amongst the number, to the proceedings of which prominent notice is taken, and many of the remarks of M. W. Bro. Wilson and V. W. Bro. J. W. Ferguson are highly eulogized.

MASSACHUSETTS.

A quarterly grand communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, on Wednesday, 11th March, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Charles C. Dame, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Solon Thornton, Grand Sec'y, and representatives from 88 subordinate lodges.

The principal business was the granting of charters to four lodges previously under dispensation.

A quarterly communication was held on the 10th June. Attendance about the same as the former. Business done of a local character.

A quarterly communication was held on the 9th Sept'r., when charters were granted to three lodges, U. D., and decisions given in a few cases of discipline.

The annual communication was held 9th December, A. L. 5868: Present, the Grand Officers, sixteen D. D. G. Masters, twenty-one P. G. Officers, and delegates from one hundred and thirty-four subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's address is arranged under several heads:

1. Limitation of term of office.—It appears that after the union of the two lodges, (now called the Commonwealth,) in 1792 it had been arranged that the term of the elected officers should not, on any account, exceed three years, and that this was the year of change, they all having been three years in office. 2. Gives a diary of his visits and other business transactions during the year, refers feelingly to the demise of two P. G. Officers, and refers to communications from the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in regard to forming themselves into independent Grand Lodges, and cautions the Grand Lodge to consider well before making themselves parties to the question at issue.

He states that there have been initiated during the year in their jurisdiction, 2,174. The whole number of members on 1st September last was, 18,367; chartered lodges, 172; U. D. 4. Received from subordinate lodges during the year \$27,000; commutation tax, \$13,000. At July, a year ago, the debt of the Grand Lodge was about \$435,312 81; at the present time it was about \$375,000, showing a reduction in eighteen months of about \$60,000. The current expenses of the Grand Lodge for the past year has been reduced to the lowest possible amount, (\$6,000,) being little more than one-half of some former years. He complains that the lodges have been lax in the payment of the capitation tax, and urges the necessity of paying off the debt, and closes with a farewell address in the usual form, apologizing for defects, thanking for kindness and indulgence, and breathing a prayer that all their future proceedings may be characterized by unity of purpose, by fraternal kindness, and by that charity which "seeketh not her own."

Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, when R. W. Bro. William Sewall Gardner, of Boston, was elected Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Solon Thornton, re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master was duly installed, made his appointments of Grand Officers, and delivered his inaugural address, which refers principally to the embarrassment on account of

the debt due on the Masonic Temple. He refers to the antiquity of the Grand Lodge, which dates back as far as 1733, and originated in the City of Boston as a province of the Grand Lodge of England; that she is the Mother Grand Lodge on this side the waters, and therefore lies under greater responsibilities than any other Masonic Body; that to preserve their dignified position, and to transmit to their successors the Grand Lodge unimpaired in influence, untarnished in reputation, and undegraded in dignity, they must *pay their debt*. The debt is at present \$377,460 79, and the *interest*, assumed by the subordinate lodges, to be paid annually, is \$29,882 31, being \$10,000 more than the Grand Lodge was worth in 1829. He uses several arguments against *implied* objections by members of subordinate lodges to the heavy taxation needed to liquidate the debt: 1st. that the representatives of the fraternity at large directed the building of the Temple; 2nd. that the fraternity at large by their silence, by taking no steps to prevent it, encouraged the board of directors to proceed in the way and manner that they have in its erection; 3rd. that the fraternity at large are responsible for the debt incurred,—and several other arguments, conclusive enough in a legal point of view, but we fear scarcely sufficient to reconcile nearly 20,000 members to the heavy tax necessary to liquidate the debt, especially as perhaps 15,000 of those members never set foot in it, and probably 10,000 never saw the outside of it." The Grand Master says: "The overshadowing importance of our financial embarrassment meets us at every point, and oppresses the administration of Grand Lodge."

When jealousy and discontent enter they scarcely have a *stopping point*. It is implied, from remarks in this address, that the exclusiveness of the Grand Lodge, and the *unlimited* power of the Grand Master had been attacked. These charges are all sufficiently answered, but they show too plainly a spirit of discontent. We deeply sympathize with our venerable sister, and have no pleasure in dwelling on her embarrassments, but her misfortunes should be a warning to all who build houses without first "counting the cost."

Many a subordinate lodge, and other bodies, have been ruined by the same course. We doubt much if even King Solomon, with all his wisdom and riches, would not have been embarrassed with *his* Temple, if his father had not for the greater part of his lifetime been collecting the materials, especially the gold and silver. *

Sixteen D. D. G. Masters give in their reports, which in general are favorable, both as to working and harmony—the subject of taxation being the principal bone of contention. A poll tax of \$1 00 per annum for thirteen years had first been imposed, and afterwards a decree had been passed to commute for \$10 00 of an immediate payment. The D. D. G. Masters have been successful in several lodges, by persuasion and explanations, in getting the commutation money paid, but in many others they have as yet failed.

No part of the proceedings is devoted to foreign correspondence. The pamphlet, which is very large and got up in good style, is perhaps more profitably filled up by the reports of the D. D. G. Masters, a copy of the Constitution and sundry rules and regulations for the guidance of their own very extensive jurisdiction.

MAINE.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Maine, opened Tuesday, 5th May, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Timothy J. Murray, Grand Master.

From the address of the Grand Master it appears, that masonry within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge is in a prosperous condition. The State is divided into nineteen districts, and the D. D. G. Master of each district makes ample and favorable reports.

The Grand Master states that he had attended the laying of two corner stones; one of a Methodist Episcopal Church in Rockland, and the other a building for educational purposes in Gorham; that ten new Halls had been dedicated during

the year, and that all these occasions had been attended with much interest and productive of much good to the Order.

The returns from subordinate lodges are as follows:— Number of lodges, 147; members, 13,001; initiated, 1,672. Receipts, \$5,794 46; amount disbursed, \$6,153 03; balance on hand \$278 25. The Grand Lodge has a large amount of its surplus funds invested in stocks, &c.

On the subject of "Incorporation of Lodges," the Grand Master says:—

"There has been quite a disposition among the lodges to obtain acts of incorporation, in order the better to enable them to hold and manage property.

"The evils consequent upon this course have generally not been considered. Grand Master Whitehead, of New Jersey, has called the attention of the Craft to them. The unanimous expression has been against the policy, since it has been noticed by the Craft. Incorporated bodies have certain legal relations which are liable to be examined and declared by the courts. It can readily be seen that litigation would introduce discord into our lodges that would soon destroy their usefulness. Other objections readily occur to the mind. One Grand Lodge has expressly forbidden the practice."

Reference is made to an organization amongst the enemies of masonry, thus:—

"In the west a portentous cloud appears to be gathering; destined, in the hopes of our enemies, to overwhelm the institution, and sweep the last vestige of masonry from our land. This crusade is waged against us in some quarters under the name of *religion*; but let none of us be deceived by this pretense, or attribute it, in word or in thought, to the influence of the pure and gentle teachings of Christianity. *Religion* demands not this warfare. Freemasonry claims not to supersede religion; but it claims and has had the credit of being the handmaid of religion—and this from some of the noblest and best of religion's firm supporters. This attack upon it under the pretext that it is hostile or dangerous to religion, therefore, is and can be prompted only by that same old spirit of *Sectarianism*, manifested and promulgated more than a century ago by our old enemy of

Rome; and with whom we now, with mingled feelings of pain and sorrow, behold a portion of Protestant America uniting hands in this unholy work. To read the late allocutions of him who wears the triple crown, would seem almost enough to convince an unprejudiced mind, that whatever Rome condemns ought to be approved by every lover of the principles of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity and true Religion. Herein lies the principal—indeed, the only—danger to the institution; and if masonry is ever put down and swept away, it must be by the indiscretions and irregularities of its friends; for if we are true to the principles of the Order, as delivered to us by the Fathers of the Craft, no human power can prevail against us.”

In reference to the communications from a great number of sister Grand Lodges, that of Canada is noticed in flattering terms.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Missouri, held its forty-eighth annual communication in the Freemasons' Hall, corner of Seventh and Market streets, St. Louis, 12th October, A. L. 5868, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M.: M. W. Bro. Wm. E. Duncombe, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Geo. Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary, and representatives from 106 subordinate lodges, were present.

The Grand Master's address is eloquent and full of valuable instruction. He first refers to their new Temple, and says:—

“We meet for the first time in this noble Temple, about to be consecrated to the glorious traditions, and yet more glorious offices of masonry. Let us thus early in our annual convocation seek to catch the spirit which speaks forth from these lofty walls and splendid decorations, telling of effort wisely put forth, of means wisely expended in behalf of the great principles which bind us together, and apply ourselves in the spirit of true and earnest brotherhood to the duties now before us.”

He refers to his visitations, which had given him much pleasure, and believes they will be profitable to the Craft. A number of cases of jurisprudence seem to have been wisely decided ; but on account of the great number of cases that come to the Grand Master's decision, he recommends the appointment of a Committee of Jurisprudence. In his concluding remarks he says :—

“ I cannot help referring to the attempt in some localities to revive the old warfare against masonry. Certain parties and even certain religious denominations, have seen fit to array themselves against our beloved institution, as dangerous to the well-being of society and subversive of religion. Why such charges should ever have been made, or why they should now be revived, I can not imagine, unless it be to subserve personal selfish ends. Masonry teaches its members to be true to all their obligations as men. It does not array itself against religion, nor even claim a position of equality with it, but is content to be as a handmaid to it in ministering to purposes of human benefaction. But I have called your attention to this subject simply to say that when thus attacked and slandered without cause, it does not become us as masons to return “ railing for railing,” but rather, by doing our duty, by keeping our Order free from all unworthy intruders, by guarding well our own and each other's characters and conduct, to ‘put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.’ ”

Receipts, \$13,271 54; disbursements, \$8,681 68; number of lodges, 301; members, 14,817; initiated, 1,825; dimitted 912; died, 172; suspended, 140; expelled, 34; reinstated, 54.

Along with the report from this Grand Lodge is a beautiful oration, by R. W. Bro. T. E. Garrett, delivered at the dedication of Freemasons' Hall, in the City of St. Louis; and a eulogy, by the same, at the unveiling of the O'Sullivan Monument in Belle Fontaine Cemetery, Oct. 14th, A.D. 1868.

MISSISSIPPI.

The fiftieth Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons, of the State of Mississippi, was held at Institute Hall, City of Natches, January 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd, A. L. 5868. A full attendance of Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and representatives from 132 subordinate lodges.

M. W. Bro. J. T. Lamkin, Grand Master, delivered an address full of pathos, and touching on many important points. He observes that it is the "semi-centennial anniversary of their organization as a Grand Lodge. Fifty years ago the only three lodges then working in the State—and holding charters from distant and different Grand Lodges—met in convention in this their ancient town, and organized this Grand Lodge, by whose creative power more than three hundred subordinate lodges have been brought into existence and are to-day represented on this floor." While expressing thankfulness to the Supreme Architect of the Universe for past favors, he urges the necessity of extending their charity, as many are peculiarly in need of it on account of the late war and current high prices. After touching on many important points, he concludes thus:—

"Let me admonish you to apply yourselves with becoming zeal to the good work before us; let us cultivate the great moral virtues which are laid down in our masonic trestle-board, and endeavor to improve in everything that is good and useful; and may the benign genius of the Mystic Art preside over our councils and assist our deliberations, and under her sway may we act with a dignity becoming the high moral character of our venerable institution."

The Grand Secretary reports that during the year he had issued 14 charters and one dispensation for new lodges, and that the moneys received by him amounted to \$12,272 85. from 216 lodges.

MARYLAND.

The semi-annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Maryland, was commenced at the Masonic Temple in the City of Baltimore, on the 10th May, A. L. 5869. The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. John Coates, was absent on account of serious indisposition, and the Grand Lodge was called to order by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Francis Burns, who requested M. W. Bro. John S. Berry, P. G. M., to take the chair. R. W. Bro. Jacob H. Medairy, Grand Secretary. Sixty-nine subordinate lodges were represented.

A letter was read from the Grand Master, in which he deeply regrets his unavoidable absence. The principal topic to which this letter refers is the new and magnificent Temple in the course of erection, and expressing deep anxiety about the raising of \$40,000 still required to clear it of debt. He recommends, as a piece of economy, that the dedication should be private.

The list of Grand Lodges in correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Maryland contains forty-one in the United States, and Scotland, England, Ireland, Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, France and Italy.

Seventy-one subordinate lodges are reported on with 4791 members; 251 initiations; 135 dimitted; 26 suspended; 4 expelled; 9 reinstated, and 26 deaths. Total receipts since November communication, \$4,960; disbursements, \$5,267.

MINNESOTA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota held its sixteenth annual communication at Masonic Hall, in the City of St. Paul, commencing January 12th, A.L. 5868, at 12 o'clock M.: M. W. Bro. C. W. Nash, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. W. S. Combs, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address is flowery, and discovers a

mind well tutored in ancient history. Commencing with the descendants of Noah, he goes down through the Oriental traditions, combined with the "sacred record," to the completion of King Solomon's Temple, and then deduces the moral teachings to be derived from his narrative.

Obedience to the moral law, as set forth in the three Great Lights, is earnestly inculcated, and in common with many—we may say all—the addresses of Grand Masters, he warns the subordinate lodges to keep a strict watch on the *outer door*. He says, (amongst many other things,) "the Church does hope, if she ever chance to receive a bad man into her fold, by the influence of the Gospel to reform him and make him in process of time an humble Christian; but masonry claims not to be able to make this change. If the lodge receives a bad man, he is likely to continue bad to her shame and annoyance, and there is little hope but in expulsion."

The committee on foreign correspondence report on 36 Grand Lodges, our own amongst the number. This Grand Lodge, as well as many others, take notice of the paragraph in our own Grand Master's address relative to parties connecting themselves with the Order from *selfish motives only*.

Seventy-two subordinate lodges are reported on, and the reports are favorable. The amount in the hands of the Grand Treasurer is \$5,489 25.

MICHIGAN.

The annual communication of the most ancient and honorable fraternity of A. F. and A. Masons, of the State of Michigan, convened at Masonic Hall in the City of Detroit, on Wednesday, 13th January, A. L. 5869: M. W. Bro. S. C. Coffinbury, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. James Fenton, Grand Secretary, and other Grand Officers; four P. Grand Masters, and representatives from 243 subordinate lodges.

The address of the Grand Master refers chiefly to local matters, but has in it many points of general interest.

Their relations with sister Grand Lodges were harmonious and pleasant, especially between the North and South. He says: "I cannot but believe that the element of peace and good-will which our institution diffuses, has had more to do in modifying and tempering Northern *hatred* and suppressing Southern *distrust*, than any other cause."

Twelve dispensations for new lodges had been granted; a great many questions of masonic law had been decided, most of them of little interest, although some are worthy of notice. A young man who had been initiated, and who returns thanks for the honor conferred, wants to be released. He says: "It is not possible for him to endorse the institution, or feel bound by its obligations." In a second letter he says: "Please find my withdrawal from the fraternity, with my pledge of honor not to avail myself of its rights or benefits forever." And along with this was a formal document withdrawing himself from the fraternity, and binding himself, on honor, that he never would make himself known as a mason by sign, token or word, or receive any of the rights or benefits hereafter. The subordinate lodge asks what they shall do in the matter? The answer of the Grand Master is: "Such a withdrawal as our brother proposes is incompatible with the spirit of masonry, and inconsistent with its duties. He cannot by his withdrawal *impair our obligations to him, nor absolve us from our duties and obligations to his family.*" This decision, simple as it may be in itself, will suggest many important points to a reflective mind.

Notice is taken of the grand event of laying the corner stone of the Grand Temple at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and proposals are made for erecting a Temple in Detroit.

The committee on foreign correspondence give reports on thirty-eight Grand Lodges, and report that it gives them pleasure to say that peace and harmony prevails among their sister jurisdictions, and that brotherly love abounds. Canada

is noticed among the others, but they seem to insinuate that the power of our Grand Master is somewhat *despotic*.

This Grand Lodge has a membership of about 20,000, and the receipts are \$7,033 15.

NEW YORK.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was opened at the Grand Lodge Room, in the City of New York, June 2nd, A. L. 5868. Grand Representatives were present from twenty-three sister Grand Bodies, and representatives from six hundred subordinate lodges. The M. W. Bro. Stephen H. Johnson, Grand Master, delivered a long address, and although chiefly referring to local matters, was full of practical lessons.

Fifty-two new lodges had been established during the year by warrants from last annual communication, and twenty-eight lodges had been formed by dispensations, and now ask warrants. Six hundred and two lodges had made returns, from which it appears that during the year 1867, the number of initiations were 8,877; affiliations, 1,888; dimitted, 2,221; expelled, 60; suspended, 27; stricken of the roll, 1,170; restored, 275; died, 652. Total number of members in good standing, 64,643.

From the Grand Treasurer's report it appears that at last report he had a balance on hand of \$3,968 14, and has since received from Grand Secretary, \$66,889 30. The total receipts from the Masonic Hall and Asylum fund were \$122,892 82. The finance committee of the Masonic Board of Relief report that during the year they have received (including a small balance on hand from last year,) \$6,257 61, and have paid out in eharity, \$5,601 36—the recipients whereof have been English, Irish, Scotch, Germans, Hollanders, Frenchmen, Canadians, South Americans and from nearly all the States of the Union.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The first annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the ancient and honorable fraternity of F. and A. Masons of New Brunswick, was held at the City of St. John, commencing Wednesday, the 23rd day of September, A. L. 5868, at 10 o'clock A. M.: M. W. Bro. B. Lester Peters, Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master delivered his annual address. Amongst other things he said :—

“I am glad to congratulate Grand Lodge, at this the first annual communication, upon the success which has attended our organization.

“Since the inauguration of this Grand Lodge in January last, several lodges formerly holding warrants from the Grand Lodge of England have been added to our roll, which now numbers twenty-four lodges; and there remain but two lodges in the Province that have not as yet communicated any action taken in the matter, both of these lodges being on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

“In accordance with a resolution of this Grand Lodge, a circular was addressed to the Grand Lodges throughout the world, announcing our organization and claiming masonic recognition. Answers have already been received, tendering fraternal greeting, from the Grand Lodges of Maine, Iowa, Indiana, Texas and Connecticut.

“During the past summer, accompanied by officers of Grand Lodge, I made official visits to thirteen private lodges in this jurisdiction; and it is with pleasure that I announce to Grand Lodge that I found these lodges in a prosperous condition, and that our reception by the brethren was most cordial and gratifying.

“The great necessity that exists for the erection in this City of a Masonic Temple that will afford required accommodation to the Craft, is a subject to which I directed the attention of Grand Lodge at our meeting in January. At that meeting the matter was referred to the Board of General Purposes, and the Board now, after due consideration, have addressed a circular to the Masonic Bodies in this Province,

bringing this important object forcibly before the fraternity. The proposal for stock subscriptions at Twenty Dollars per Share, brings within the means of every brother the possibility of affording substantial aid to the undertaking."

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire include those of the semi-annual meeting of 27th December, A. D. 1857, and the annual communication held 10th and 11th June, A. L. 5868.

At the semi-annual communication no important matters seem to have engaged Grand Lodge, beyond an exemplification of the work in the three degrees.

M. W. Bro. John H. Rowell, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Horace Chase, Grand Secretary.

At the annual communication, held at Masonic Temple in the City of Concord, besides the Grand Officers, there were present representatives from sixty-three subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's address is short, and chiefly refers to his own transactions. He says: "The past year has been one of peace, prosperity and happiness among the fraternity; no jarring notes of discord have saluted our ears; we have constantly and steadily increased in numbers, and we trust in *strength*, and in the admiration and respect of the whole community."

In the course of the year Grand Lodge had laid three corner stones and dedicated two Masonic Halls; and the Grand Master had constituted two lodges and visited six, installing officers, seeing the work, &c.

The death of two veteran members of Grand Lodge is feelingly referred to. As regards jurisprudence no question had

come up for solution but what was easily answered from the Constitution, and therefore are not brought before Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master understands that masonry is in great favor within the jurisdiction, and expresses some fear that there may be some danger of increasing too rapidly. In conclusion he says: "But as long as we live up to the tenets of our profession, and practice the cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, following that *Great Light* of Masonry that leads to all truth, squaring our actions by the square of Virtue, we need not fear all that may oppose. No institution has ever been founded on truer principles to advance the cause of virtue and morality, and the lessons we are there taught will be indelibly written on our hearts, teaching us *faith in God*, hope in immortality, and charity to all mankind."

The jurisdiction is divided into ten districts. The D. D. G. Masters all report favorably of the lodges under their care; in most cases the *work* is well done, and a zeal manifested in forwarding the interests of the fraternity.

A resolution was moved,

"That the wearing of masonic emblems of any kind, other than on public masonic days, and the printing or engraving of masonic emblems upon cards, show-bills and advertisements, is in derogation of the principles of the Order, and is hereby discountenanced by the Grand Lodge."

On taking the question it was decided in the negative.

The finance committee report, cash in Treasurer's hands, \$4,548 29. There are 67 subordinate lodges, with 6,032 members; dues \$1,059. The committee on foreign correspondence report on thirty-seven Grand Lodges, Canada amongst the number.

NEVADA.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Nevada, commenced its fourth annual communication at Masonic Hall, in the City of Virginia, on Tuesday, the 15th September, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. John C. Currie, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Wm. A. M. Van Bokkelen, G. Sec'y.

The Grand Master's address is replete with much that is encouraging. He says:—

“We meet with unbroken ranks; the dread Archer—Death—whose shafts our brethren in other jurisdictions have been called upon to deplore, has not, during the year, visited this Grand Lodge. I have to congratulate you, also, upon the fact that although our numbers have increased slowly, yet the material worked into the building has been of excellent quality. The brethren have made a judicious of that potent safeguard, the *black ball*, and unworthy blocks have been, with a firm hand, thrown over among the rubbish.”

The Grand Treasurer reports receipts, \$2,849 00; disbursements, \$1,904 71; balance on hand, \$944 28.

There are 12 subordinate lodges with a membership of 977.

NEW JERSEY.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most ancient and honorable society of F. and A. Masons, of the State of New Jersey, was held at Taylor Hall, in Greene street, in the City of Trenton, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 20th and 21st days of January, A. L. 5869.: M. W. Bro. Henry R. Cannon, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary, the other Grand Officers, and the representatives of a large number of subordinate lodges.

From the M. W. Grand Master's address we quote:—

“The steady and uniform increase in our membership, the zeal and generous rivalry displayed by the officers and brethren of the subordinate lodges, in striving to promote

the best interests of our institution, the increased proficiency of the officers of the lodges in rendering the work of masonry, the decided improvement made in the preparation and adornment of lodge rooms, and above all, the fact that so few of our number have been removed from earth and earthly scenes during the past year—these all are causes for mutual congratulation and thanksgiving, as we meet once more in our annual assembly.”

The following parts of the address refer to local matters, such as dispensations, refusing of dispensations, decisions, &c.

There might be noted here, a thing to be seen in the reports of nearly all the Grand Lodges in regard to jurisprudence, that the Grand Master's answers are simply quotations from the constitution and by-laws of the Grand Lodge, and in some cases from the by-laws of the lodges asking advice. It is much to be desired that subordinate lodges would endeavor to make themselves acquainted with the constitution and by-laws of their respective Grand Lodges instead of boring Grand Masters with questions which said constitution and by-laws plainly answer. The State holds that its citizens are bound to know the law, and if we, in Canada, were to run to the Attorney-General with every little question that might arise, we fear he would not answer us so patiently as the Grand Masters have answered. We do not mean to say that this applies to New Jersey alone; it seems to be general amongst many more of the sister lodges, and in which we in Canada are chargeable with our share.

The Grand Treasurer reports assets, \$6,949 85; disbursements, \$4,943 00.

The report of the committee on foreign correspondence is worthy of note. They say:—

“The object of such report, as we understand it, is to keep the brethren informed of the progress and prosperity of the Craft through all our borders, to compare notes with reference to questions which are generally interesting, with a view to greater uniformity in masonic law and practice, and generally to cultivate good will and closer relations of

intimacy between brethren separated from each other by space and by the corporate limitations of their several Grand Bodies. And we believe, that keeping these ends in view, such reports have been, and will continue to be, productive of great good."

It does not appear that any important question had come under discussion at the communication, beyond matters purely local.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of North Carolina, commenced its eighty-second annual communication in the City of Raleigh, on Monday, December 7th, A.L. 5868, at 7 o'clock P. M.: M. W. Bro. R. W. Best, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. D. W. Bain, Grand Secretary; representatives from 170 subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's address contains much that is valuable. He says:—

"During the late war too many of us let our zeal and sympathy get the better of our judgment, and in looking over the returns of the subordinate lodges for those years, one would almost conclude that the 'black balls' in the lodges had been thrown away, or at least they were too seldom brought into requisition; the result of which we are now reaping. It gives me sorrow to say it, but is nevertheless true, that a very large per cent. of those came into the Order from mercenary or selfish motives, and since these motives have been accomplished, they are but *drones* in the great hive of masonry. They neither work themselves, take no interest in the Order, pay no dues, and never attend the lodge except on festive occasions, and instead of contributing to the great work, they hinder those who try to do their duty. The first duty of the lodge is to amputate or cut off all such. There is too much shallow indulgence and mock charity in some of our lodges."

The *work* is referred to at great length, regretting the want of uniformity and mentioning many steps that had been taken in the hope of lessening the evil. A proposition is submitted for the consideration of Grand Lodge, namely, a

National Masonic Congress, the time about the middle of January, 1870, the place New York. "That the necessity exists for such a convention," says the Grand Master, "I am persuaded no one will deny; that the want of uniformity exists not only in this jurisdiction, but to a more or less extent throughout the other Grand Bodies of the Union. Doubtless after the adjournment of the Baltimore Congress the work of all the Grand Lodges conformed thereto, but years have lapsed since then, and now there are about as many systems as there are Grand Lodges; hardly any two agree, and if you ask the question, 'Which of you have the right work?' each one will, in all probability, tell you, 'that they have sacredly kept it.'" The Grand Master goes on to say, that he can suggest no better remedy for the discrepancies and conflicting opinions than a National Convention, to be composed of, say, three delegates from each Grand Lodge; that if reasons existed for the Baltimore Convention in 1843, they exist with two-fold weight for another of the same kind now. He adds: "The *work* is to masonry what the blood is to the human body, let *it* become impure and the body assumes a sickly hue, and loses the freshness of beauty and vigorous manhood; destroy *it* and the body is but a loathsome carcass; so with the 'work,' let the Craftsman see that *it* is impure, and the Temple reels with faintness; let *it* be destroyed, and the Temple—the pride of ages—totters to the foundation. * * * * Who could estimate the vast importance and benefit of the assembling together of masons representing the fraternity from the Great Lakes to the everglades of Florida; from the golden sands of the Pacific to the sounding shores of the Atlantic? A collection of Wisdom, Prudence and Discretion such as this would add new lustre to, and shed new light on, our valued and venerable institution. Such a meeting and greeting would be an epoch in the history of masonry; and what more auspicious period for such a meeting? The clouds of war have rolled away, and the bow of peace spans the heavens, the political seas so recently turbulent have lulled themselves to peace, and the assembly of masons might be one step more to the unity of hearts as well as hands."

The Grand Master gives a long list of decisions on applications from subordinate lodges on questions of masonic jurisprudence, which are all answered by reference to the constitution and by-laws of the lodge, or by an appeal to common sense. Sixteen dispensations for new lodges had been granted during the year. The demise of two Grand Officers is noticed, and suitable resolutions passed, expressive of the feelings of Grand Lodge on these events.

The Grand Treasurer reports assets, (including \$45 from last year,) \$3,051 90; disbursements, \$2,663 84.

Forty-three Grand Lodges (Canada included) are reviewed in a neat and brotherly style. The number of subordinate lodges are 211.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Nova Scotia, convened pursuant to the provisions of the constitution, at the Masonic Temple, in the City of Halifax, on Friday the 13th day of September, A. L. 5867, at 8 o'clock in the evening: M. W. Bro. W. H. Davies, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. C. J. McDonald, Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand Master shows unmistakably that this Grand Lodge is struggling for liberty, and deserves the sympathy of sister lodges. The address has, amongst other things, the following:—

“This will be one of the most important meetings that has taken place since the organization of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, for on the legislation of this evening depends to a great extent the future of this Grand Lodge. You will have placed before you resolutions with reference to the English lodges at present existing in our territory. These lodges have been permitted to enjoy undisturbed possession of our territory ever since our formation, but in my opinion the time has now arrived when we must take the existing state of masonry in this Province seriously into consideration. We claim to be the Supreme Masonic Body in Nova

Scotia, and in accordance with all well known recognized principles of masonic law, we are so, if we have fulfilled certain conditions."

The committee on foreign correspondence acknowledge the reports of twenty-eight sister Grand Lodges, from which they quote at considerable length such things as are useful and beneficial to the lodges under their jurisdiction. There are returns from 23 subordinate lodges, with a membership of 880. Grand Treasurer's assets, \$777 94; disbursements, \$360 50.

OHIO.

The fifty-ninth Grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Ohio, was held at Huston Hall, Dayton, 20th October, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Howard Matthews, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. John D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary; and representatives from 265 subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's address refers to matters entirely local, such as thankfulness for blessings received, and giving a report of his sayings, doings and designs during the year. There is however one item of general interest to which he refers, namely, an extract from the constitution, "That any brother conferring the so-called 'side degrees,' is in all cases a subject for masonic discipline." He says, he is informed that there is a growing disposition on the part of brethren in certain sections of the State to confer degrees on the wives and daughters of masons, and giving them to understand that they are a part of masonry; and urging in extenuation that they would insure the recipients the benefits of masonic sympathy. He says: "In the long series of years through which we trace our masonic history, we find no warrant for conferring on women any masonic degree, and yet have the widows and orphans of masons ever found the fullest sympathy from the institution."

Remarks are given on thirty-two Grand Lodges—ours *not* amongst the number.

A beautiful oration was delivered to a large assembly of the members of Grand Lodge, joined by different Commanderies of Knights Templar, in the Opera House, by the Grand Orator, R. W. and Rev. Bro. Wyllys Hall, from which were we to make extracts we would not know where to end.

Total receipts from all sources for the year, \$25,903; expenditure, \$12,682 15—balance, \$13,220 99; total amount paid officers and members of Grand Lodge in mileage and per diem, \$8,184 42.

Returns from a great number of subordinate lodges are reported, but no synopsis given.

OREGON.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Oregon, commenced its eighteenth annual communication at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Portland, on Monday, the 22nd day of June, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Avery A. Smith, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. J. E. Hurford, Grand Sec'y.

The matters referred to in the Grand Master's address are purely local—detailing his doings for the bygone year, and urging upon the Craft the study and practice of the beautiful precepts laid down in the *Great Light*.

They are in friendly communication with twenty-six sister Grand Lodges, of which Canada forms one. Efforts are being made—and apparently with success—to get up an educational establishment in connection with the Order.

The returns from thirty-two subordinate lodges are reported, with 1,203 members. The Grand Treasurer reports his assets for the year, \$3,932 87; disbursements, \$3,339 70.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The annual grand communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of the State of Pennsylvania, was held at Philadelphia, December 28th, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Richard Vaux, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. John Thomson, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master commences his address by a retrospect of the past year; calling upon all to reflect on it seriously and see what report it has to make, what errors, faults or neglected opportunities are inscribed upon it. He feels great satisfaction in being able to say that the brotherhood are united, harmonious, satisfied and devoted to the Supreme Masonic authority which governs them; and that this has never before been so markedly the spirit which animates both lodges and masons in Pennsylvania. He looks upon it as a cause of satisfaction to all Grand Lodges, that the differences between the M. W. Grand Lodge of Virginia and that of West Virginia have been satisfactorily adjusted without any interference of any other masonic authority; and regrets that the brethren in Nova Scotia have not been as fortunate, the troubles there still exist, and must continue to exist until the principles which alone can end them are cordially and fully adopted. He adds:—

“We fear our sister Grand Lodge of Canada has yet a trial of her faith and patience to undergo. The Dominion of Canada has consolidated territories in which Grand Lodges exist. There may arise a question how to deal with these Grand Bodies. Whatever may be proposed, we expect that the fundamental principle which underlies a Grand Lodge’s existence—its supreme sovereignty within its borders—will be maintained as a landmark of the Order.”

The great affair of the past year in this Grand Lodge was the laying the corner stone of a Masonic Temple in the City of Philadelphia, which seems to have been the greatest event of the kind on record. Representatives were present from nearly all the Grand Lodges in the Union, and altogether there were present nearly 10,000 Masons, while the citizens

of Philadelphia proclaimed a holiday in honor of the occasion. What will be the ultimate cost of this noble edifice, their report "saith not," but they *do* say that up to 15th Nov'r. then last the cost had been \$209,344 '77, and that \$190,000 was required for the current year. The deposits in the cavity under the corner stone of about nine tons weight, would seem to have been the result of ransacking the vaults of some of the oldest antiquarians—"a Franklin penny of 1787, wood from the forest of Lebanon, a part of the Golden Gate of the Temple of King Solomon, a piece of stone from the foundation of the Temple of Jerusalem, a fragment of a foundation stone of King Solomon's Temple found forty feet below the Mosque of Omar," &c., &c. The programme of proceedings are given in full, and we regret that our sister of Pennsylvania did not give it separately in pamphlet form; we think it would have repaid them, at least if any recommendation of ours could have helped to bring it into notice we should have willingly done so. There is not a breathing in the beautiful prayer, a line in the poetry, or a sentiment in the address, but to which every true "Son of Light" would not add "so mote it be;" and we deeply regret that our space forbids extracts, but we can only say, God speed the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The capital stock of the Girard trust fund is \$52,035 64; the capital stock of the Grand Lodge charity fund, \$55,322 29. From these two charitable institutions during the year no less than \$5,445 had been expended—the recipients including widows and orphans of departed brethren, and travellers from all parts of the world, Canada included.

During the past year 31 new lodges had been warranted and duly constituted. There are 259 subordinate lodges, membership 29,340. The Grand Treasurer's receipts for the year, including balance on hand from last year \$4,395, are \$64,330 00; disbursements, \$31,290 05.

RHODE ISLAND.

The Grand Lodge of the Most ancient and honorable society of F. and A. Masons of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, assembled in Masons' Hall, Pawtucket, Thursday August 6th, A. L. 5868, at half-past ten o'clock A. M.: M. W. Bro. Thomas A. Doyle, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Charles D. Greene, Grand Secretary; representatives from a large number of lodges.

The business transacted was all of a local character. The Grand Master in his address reports the subordinate lodges in a healthy condition, and, although they have done less work than in the preceding year so far as numbers go, he thinks will be an improvement. He does not believe that the evidence of a strong lodge is to be found in a long list of members, but rather in a small number of good and true men.

Proceedings are acknowledged from forty-three Grand Lodges—Canada and the Grand Orient of France being in the number. Twenty-seven subordinate lodges are reported, with a membership of 3,013. The assets for the year are, \$2,036 50; disbursements, \$1,244 11.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of South Carolina, commenced at Masonic Hall in the City of Charleston, at 12 o'clock M., on Tuesday 17th November, A. L. 5868. In the absence of the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. J. L. Orr, presided; R. W. Bro. R. S. Bruns, Grand Secretary.

The proceedings are nearly all anent local matters.

The Deputy Grand Master is said to have made a beautiful extemporaneous address, which was listened to with great attention by the Craft, and it was "resolved that he be

requested to write it out for publication along with the proceedings of Grand Lodge ;" but it does not appear.

The Grand Lecturer reports, that during the year he had visited ninety-five lodges, and appears to have done much in the way of imparting information, and establishing uniformity in the work. It was resolved that the Grand Lecturer, Bro. B. Rush Campbell, be appointed for another year.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of "Masonic Lotteries," condemn such, even although for Educational or Charitable purposes, as derogatory to the character of the institution, and subversive of its established principles; and after many sound moral remarks, it was

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that lotteries (being a species of gambling,) cannot be held under the sanction of a Masonic Body for any purpose whatever, without violation of the great principles of the Order."

The committee on Grievances, to whom an appeal was referred by a brother who had preferred a charge of a "grave and serious" character against another. The case had been tried and the accused fully acquitted, and the appeal was brought by the accuser. The opinion of the committee is,

"That when the appeal is brought by the accused, who alleges that a wrong has been done him by the lodge, most assuredly he has the right of appeal; but where the appellant is the accuser, whose charges have been fully and fairly investigated, from what does he appeal? What wrong has been done him? *For* what does he appeal? It must be for a new trial; can he have a new trial, and try the accused a second time? And if he has a right to appeal the first time, would he not have the same right a second time, and then a third time, and so on *ad infinitum*!—and so on."

We are sorry we cannot see the force of thus arguing. When there is a court of appeal, we are of opinion that one party has as good right to appeal as the other. An accuser will not prefer a "grievous and serious" charge against a brother, unless he thinks he has good grounds for it, and if

he *thinks* the lower tribunal has erred in judgment, he surely has a good right to appeal. It has to be borne in mind that the "full acquittal" of the accused puts him, (the accuser,) in the unenviable position of a false accuser. It is no more a new trial than if the appeal came from the accused; and to say that he might appeal a second and a third time is simply nonsense, because when a decision is given by the court of *dernier resort* the case is *res judicata*.

The committee on dispensations recommended charters to be granted to eleven lodges U. D. The Grand Secretary, in a very able and lucid manner, had reviewed the proceedings of twenty-three sister Grand Lodges—our own amongst the number.

There are in the jurisdiction 136 chartered lodges, and five under dispensation.

The assets in Grand Treasurer's account, including \$458 balance, is \$9,269 65; disbursements \$8,204—balance on hand, \$1,065.

M. W. Bro. James Conner, was elected Grand Master; and R. W. Bro. R. S. Bruns, re-elected Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

The fifty-fifth annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Tennessee, was begun and held at the Masonic Temple, in the City of Nashville, on the first Monday of October, being the 5th day of the month, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Joseph M. Anderson, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. John Frizzel, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address is full of the true spirit of masonry. He has been cautious in granting dispensations for new lodges, from a belief that they have too many, or at least that there is too much carelessness in selecting their members. He had during the year granted twelve dispensations, and rejected a great many more.

The time of the communication was devoted to a remodeling of the constitution, to masonic schools, masonic jurisprudence, and several local matters. A very interesting ceremony is detailed, called "The Lodge of Sorrow." The Grand Lodge, and the masonic fraternity amounting to over 500, proceeded to the Concert Room of the Masonic Temple, escorted by the Knights of Nashville Commandery of Knights Templar, No. 1. We quote as follows:—

"The large hall was appropriately draped in mourning, and at the rear of the Master was suspended a life-like portrait of the late Brother Charles A. Fuller, P. G. M., P. G. Sec'y, in memory of whom the sad rites were held. In the centre was a sarcophagus, on which rested a coffin, and over which waved plumes of white and black feathers. At the angles of the sarcophagus were seated four aged brethren—John Bell, William H. McLeskey, Wm. I. McCarroll and William Henderson—in charge of lights, which it was their duty to extinguish and relight at suitable points of the ceremonial.

"The Lodge of Sorrow was opened by Bro. John Frizzel, P. G. M., as Worshipful Master, assisted by Bro. Joseph M. Anderson, P. G. M., as Senior Warden; Bro. Jonathan S. Dawson, G. M., as Junior Warden; Bro. and Rev. B. F. Duggan, as Chaplain; Bros. W. P. Morris and S. E. H. Dance, as Deacons; and Bros. John W. Boyd, and A. H. Kindel, as Stewards.

"The usual beautiful and impressive ceremonies were then performed, and the hearts of all present were touched by the feeling manner in which the sentiments of their sorrowing minds were expressed.

"These ceremonies were materially aided by a fine choir of music, composed of brethren of the Order, to whom the Grand Lodge expresses its warmest thanks.

A large attendance of visitors were present on the occasion and all went to their homes deeply impressed with the beauty and nobility of masonic teachings.

"At the conclusion of the services, Bro. Wm. A. Nelson, by special request, delivered a eulogy on deceased."

A long list is given of Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge—Canada amongst the number. The report of proceedings is neat and ample. The Treasurer's assets for the year, \$17,541 94; disbursements, \$15,541 39.

TEXAS.

The thirty-second annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Texas, met at Gray's Hall, in the City of Houston, on Monday June 8th, A. L. 5868, at 10 o'clock A. M.: M. W. Bro. John R. Fretwell, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. Geo. H. Bringhurst, Grand Secretary. Seventy-three lodges were represented.

The Grand Master's address on the whole is confined to local matters, referring to disputes amongst the subordinate lodges and the settling of them.

The committee on lodges under dispensation report on 12, and the issuing of charters. The committee on Grievances and Appeals, had three appeals under their notice; the first from the Secretary of a lodge against the Junior Warden signing the minutes while acting as W. M., in the absence of the W. M. and S. W. Appeal dismissed. The next is an appeal against a brother, who was only a past S. W., presiding while the S. W. and J. W. of the lodge were in their places. Appeal sustained. A third appeal is against masonic burial of a dimitted mason. Sustained. Eight other appeals arising out of unmasonic conduct are reported, some of which appear frivolous and vexatious, and calculated to injure the cause of masonry rather than to improve the morals.

The Grand Secretary reports returns from 205 chartered lodges, and that 55 had not been heard from. The Treasurer's assets are \$9,288 24; disbursements, \$8,720 32.

VERMONT.

The annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Vermont, convened in the lodge room of Passumpsic Lodge, No. 27, at Johnsbury, the 10th day of June, A. L. 5868, at 10 o'clock A. M.: M. W. Bro. Leverett B. Englesby, Grand

Master; R. W. Bro. Henry Clark, Grand Secretary; representatives from 84 subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master's address is sound and pointed. Amongst other things he remarks on trials:—

“A great many difficulties arise from misconception, matters insignificant in themselves, but which, by being dwelt upon, create angry feelings, discords, and result in charges and trials. Trials, from such causes, are usually of little profit. The disease pervades the whole lodge, and the excision or other punishment of a single member does not heal the difficulty. It were well in such cases for each member to thoroughly examine himself, not that he may find excuses for word or act, but to see if he is not really in fault; a harsh word hastily spoken, an unpremeditated act, regretted as soon as done, but for which a false pride prevents an apology. If so the generous word with the freely proffered fraternal grasp of the hand, will be more efficacious to restore harmony than aught else.”

They report on proceedings from forty-three Grand Lodges in North America, and seven foreign lodges. The reports of the D. D. Grand Masters are generally favorable. The Treasurer's assets were \$4,883 47; disbursements \$1,500.

VIRGINIA. .

The grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Virginia, was begun and held at the Masonic Hall in the City of Richmond, on Monday, 14th December, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. William Terry, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. John Dove, M. D., Grand Secretary, and other Grand Officers; representatives from eighty-four subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master in his address congratulates the Grand Lodge on the marked prosperity of the Order, as evidenced by increasing membership, the increase in the number of lodges, and the applications for dispensations to open new ones. Since last communication fourteen dispensations had been issued to open new lodges. Many applications had

been made for dispensations to confer degrees, on the plea of emergency, which had almost uniformly been refused, as he (the Grand Master) does not think such applications should be encouraged, as more evil than good is likely to result from them. He says: "In these days when our Order is multiplying and spreading so rapidly we should guard well the approaches to our sacred Temple, and to see that all enter by the same gate, with all the forms and safeguards which prudence has suggested, and which experience approves. If the delays and forms of proceeding which our Order has thrown around the entrance to our institution weary the patience of any who are seeking admission into our fraternity, I think it would be a happy riddance to be relieved of such, for they would not be likely to prove either ornamental or profitable to the institution." He then goes at length into the necessary qualifications of fitting candidates, and afterwards refers to several matters which are purely local.

The Grand Secretary acknowledges, on the part of the Grand Lodge, the receipt of printed proceedings from forty-three sister Grand Lodges—Canada included; and closes his report as follows:—

"The character, tenor and increased size of these volumes prove a greatly advanced progress in the development of the beautiful influences of our time honored institution, in ameliorating and improving the moral condition of mankind. And in her capacity as the humble handmaid of religion, she shows her faith by her works, in dispensing charity to the destitute, comfort and consolation to the afflicted and a tender, kind and useful nurture of the helpless. We respectfully ask a fraternal continuance of these communications."

The committee on finance report assets, \$6,983 83; disbursements, \$6,448 24.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The eleventh grand annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Washington Territory, was held in Masonic Hall, in the City of Olympia, on

Thursday, September 19th, A. L. 5868. In the absence of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master presided and opened Grand Lodge, and appointed the usual committees.

The Grand Master, M. W. Bro. James Biles, was present on Friday, and read a short address, mostly of a congratulatory kind. He says the year had not been marked by anything very special amongst them; he had been informed that the chartered lodges were all in working order, and that masonry had kept up with the general growth of the Territory. Dispensations had been granted for two new lodges. He says: "The troubles with the Grand Lodge of Oregon, if not finally settled, seems to be in a quiet state."

The committee on foreign correspondence (the Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Thomas M. Reed, chairman,) deems it inadvisable in the present state of their balance sheet, to incur the heavy expense of printing a long report, which he thinks of doubtful expediency or value to the Grand Lodge. He therefore acknowledges with pleasure the receipt of proceedings of thirty-four sister Grand Lodges, which he names—Canada in the number—and monthly bulletins from the Grand Orients of France and Italy. Also the proceedings of the new Grand Lodges of Idaho and New Brunswick. They likewise say:—

"A Provincial Grand Lodge, auxiliary to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was organized for the province of British Columbia, December 24th, 1867, at Victoria, B. C., official notice of which we acknowledge with fraternal pleasure. Our esteemed friend and brother, R. W. Bro. J. W. Powell, M. D., of Victoria, is Provincial Grand Master, than whom a better appointment could not have been made; a gentleman of rare attainments; genial, warm-hearted and ever zealous in the cause of masonry. R. W. Bro. A. G. Richardson is Grand Secretary. We extend them our hearty greetings."

Eleven subordinate lodges are reported chartered, and two under dispensation, with 348 members. The assets of the

Grand Treasurer is \$1,647 50; disbursements, \$901—balance \$746 50.

M. W. Bro. Benjamin E. Lombard was elected Grand Master; and R. W. Bro. Thomas M. Reed, re-elected Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The fourth grand annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons, of the State of West Virginia, was begun and held in the Masonic Temple in the City of Wheeling, on Tuesday, the 10th day of November, A. L. 5868, at 7 o'clock P. M.: M. W. Bro. J. Bates, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. T. H. Logan, Grand Secretary; the other Grand Officers, four Past Masters and forty-one delegates from subordinate lodges.

The Grand Master opens his address by offering congratulations that the large attendance gave reason to believe that there was a growing interest in Freemasonry within their jurisdiction. In very feeling terms he alludes to the death of R. W. Bro. Edward C. Bunker, P. G. M. of Grand Lodge, and at the time of his death D. D. G. M. of 3rd masonic district.

Three special communications of Grand Lodge had been held; one on 18th April at Point Pleasant, Mason County, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of Christ Church, (Protestant Episcopal;) another on 25th May at Cameron Lodge, No. 17, Cameron, Marshall County, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Presbyterian Church of Cameron; a third on 24th June in the Town of West Liberty, in the County of Ohio, for the purpose of dedicating the new Hall of Liberty Lodge, No. 26, and for the installation of officers.

The Grand Master goes at great length into the matters in dispute between Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and the "meek and quiet spirit" in which he does

so, gives evidence of a truly masonic heart, and there is every prospect of a speedy and amicable adjustment of all their difficulties.

The committee on foreign correspondence acknowledge the receipt of proceedings from thirty-five sister Grand Lodges, which are reviewed at considerable length—ours *not* amongst the number. Thirty subordinate lodges are reported, with 1,590 members. Assets, \$988 63; disbursements, \$782 53; balance on hand, \$206 10.

WISCONSIN.

The annual communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Wisconsin, convened at Masonic Temple, in the City of Milwaukee, June 9th, A. L. 5868: M. W. Bro. Harlow Pease, Grand Master; R. W. Bro. W. T. Palmer, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master's address is a business like document, and in which he remarks that it is his painful duty to refer to the demise of several eminent Craftsmen, which he does in true masonic spirit. The institution within the jurisdiction is reported as being in a flourishing state. In the course of the year no less than \$1,320 had been distributed in charity.

A return is given from 152 subordinate lodges. Treasurer's assets, \$15,839; disbursements, \$7,326.

PORTUGAL, FRANCE, ITALY AND URUGUAY.

We find that we have already exceeded the space allotted to us in the printed proceedings, but we cannot close without acknowledging with pleasure the receipt of documents from the Grand Orients of Portugal, France, Italy and Uruguay, and can only assure our Brethren in those places that we will be most happy to reciprocate with them in the exchange of proceedings, and hail the success attending their masonic endeavors with great satisfaction.

CONCLUSION.

We have now perused with great pleasure and attention forty-six volumes, kindly furnished to us by our sister Grand Lodges, and however far we have failed, our aim has been to select out of so much that is good what may be practically valuable and useful, and at the same time keep our selections within due bounds—a task attended with much difficulty. We have in very few instances offered any remarks of our own, but simply given quotations, believing that the sound sense of our readers will enable them to choose the good and eschew the evil.

The over-hauling of some thousands of pages is doubtless a laborious work, but in this case it has a proportionate amount of satisfaction. It is surely gratifying to find ourselves in correspondence with nearly a million of our fellow men in every quarter of the world, bound together by one mystic tie. It is true there are cases of back-sliding; but when we remember that masons are only men, and, as the M. W. Grand Master of the District of Columbia observes, it is only on the arrival of the millenium that we can expect perfection; the wonder comes to be that delinquencies are so few, and it is pleasing beyond measure to find as a whole that the Angelic anthem of nearly nineteen centuries ago is being practically sung by the fraternity around the globe—"Peace on earth, and good will to men." May the Order daily increase and prosper, until the great mountain becomes a plain, and the head-stone be brought forth with shoutings, crying grace, "grace unto it." *So mote it be.*

EDWARD MITCHELL,

Chairman.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 2:30 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 3 o'clock, P.M.

Present :

M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson, Grand Master,
on the Throne ;

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the first business before Grand Lodge was the election of officers.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to appoint the following Brethren as scrutineers of the ballot for Grand Officers and for Members of the Board of General Purposes, viz: W. Bros. F. Edgar, N. B. Falkiner and W. T. Munday.

The ballots having been distributed the election was proceeded with, and the following Brethren were declared duly elected :—

- | | | | | |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| M. W. Bro. | A. A. Stevenson, | Montreal, | re-elected, | Grand Master. |
| R. " " | James Seymour, | St. Catharines, | " Deputy | Grand Master. |
| V. " " | Peter J. Brown, | Ingersoll, | Grand Senior | Warden. |
| " " " | Daniel Thomas, | Sherbrooke, | " Junior | " |
| " " " | Rev'd H. Montgomery, | Phillipsburg, | Grand | Chaplain. |
| R. " " | Henry Groff, | Simcoe, | re-elected, | " Treasurer. |
| " " " | Silas B. Fairbanks, | Oshawa, | " | Registrar. |
| R. " " | Thomas Bird Harris, | Hamilton, | unanimously re-elected, | |
| | | | Grand | Secretary. |

By an open vote of Grand Lodge,
Bro. Thomas Willings, Toronto, Grand Tyler.

Nominated by the Representatives of Lodges of the various Masonic Districts, as District Deputy Grand Masters, and approved by the M. W. Grand Master :—

- | | | | | | |
|------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| R. W. Bro. | John E. Brooke, | Chatham, | re-elected, | London | District. |
| " " " | David Curtis, | Brantford | " | Wilson | " |
| " " " | Thomas Matheson, | Mitchell, | " | Huron | " |
| V. " " | Otto Klotz, | Preston, | | Wellington | " |

	W. Bro Isaac P. Willson, Welland,	Hamilton	District.
V. " "	James K. Kerr, Toronto,	Toronto	"
R. " "	William McCabe, Oshawa, re-elected,	Ontario	"
	" " H. W. Delany, Trenton,	Prince Edward	"
V. " "	Thomas Wilkinson, Brockville,	St. Lawrence	"
	" " J. J. Gemmill, Ottawa,	Ottawa	"
	" " M. Gutman, Montreal,	Montreal	"
R. " "	Isaac H. Stearns, Lennoxville,	St. Francis	"
	" " H. L. Robinson, Waterloo,	Bedford	"
R. " "	Alexander Walker, Quebec, (re-elected)	Quebec	"

W. Bro. Charles Sharpe gave notice that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, he will move that Clause 1, "Of D. D. Grand Masters," of the Constitution be so amended as to allow *Immediate Past Masters* of lodges, to vote in the nomination of D. D. G. Ms. for their respective districts.

W. Bro. A. J. Donly gave notice, that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, he will move that the Wilson District be divided as follows, viz: The County of Norfolk and Townships of Burford and Norwich to form a District, to be named the "Wilson District," and the remaining portion of the *Wilson District* to be called the "Brantford District."

The President of the Board of General Purposes submitted the following report

ON PRINTING.

The Board of General Purposes begs leave to report, that at the semi-annual meeting held in Belleville, in February last, a committee consisting of R. W. Bros. A. DeGrassi, John Kerr, and V. W. Bro. James Bain, was appointed with instructions to advertize for, and to receive tenders for Printing and Lithographing the several Proceedings, Constitutions and Certificates required for the use of Grand Lodge,

and it herewith submits a digest of the several tenders received :—

PRINTING, COVERING AND STITCHING PROCEEDINGS, PER 1000 COPIES.

Bro. Lawson, Hamilton,.....	\$214 00
Bros. T. & R. White, Hamilton,.....	224 13
“ Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto,.....	255 60
Mr. James Beatty, Toronto,.....	268 18
Bro. J. B. Taylor, Ottawa,.....	268 25
Messrs. Chewett & Co., Toronto,.....	277 00
Bro. A. T. Houel, “ <i>Globe Printing Company</i> ,”	285 23
“ Barker, Kingston,.....	479 63

PRINTING AND BINDING CONSTITUTIONS, PER 5000 COPIES.

Bro. Lawson, Hamilton,.....	\$512 00
Mr. James Beatty, Toronto,.....	564 00
Bro. Houel, “	590 00
Bros. T. & R. White, Hamilton,.....	650 00
Bro. Barker, Kingston,.....	805 00
“ Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto,.....	826 00
“ J. B. Taylor, Ottawa,.....	875 00
Messrs. Chewett & Co., Toronto,.....	1250 00

LITHOGRAHING CERTIFICATES, PER 1000 IMPRESSIONS.

Mr. Rolph, Toronto,.....	\$250 00
Mr. Beatty, “	250 00
Messrs. Chewett & Co., Toronto,.....	252 50

PRINTING CERTIFICATES FROM PLATE, PER 1000 IMPRESSIONS.

Mr. Rolph, Toronto,.....	\$290 00
“ Beatty, “	290 00
Messrs. Chewett & Co.,.....	292 50

After enquiry, the Board find that notwithstanding the price for printing the certificates from the plate has been paid, they have frequently been *lithographed*; under this view of the case, and considering the greater cost of printing from the plate, and lithographing being equally good, the Board recommends that lithographing be adopted.

The Board further recommends that the printing of Grand Lodge proceedings be given to Bros. T. & R. White, Hamilton; that of the Constitutions to Bro. Lawson, and the

lithographing of Certificates, &c., to Messrs. W. C. Chewett & Co., Toronto.

The whole respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
P. B. G. P.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Jas. Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. Murray, and

RESOLVED, That the report of the Board on Printing be received and adopted.

W. Bro. J. A. Sommerville gave notice for the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, that it be an instruction to the Board of General Purposes to take into consideration a reconstruction of the various Masonic Districts, and to report thereon at the next annual communication.

V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle gave notice that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, he will move that the Hamilton District be divided into two districts.

W. Bro. J. A. Sommerville gave notice, that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge, he will move that the London District be divided into two districts, and to be named the "St. Clair" and the "Erie" Districts; the former to comprise the Counties of Middlesex and Lambton, and the latter the Counties of Elgin, Essex and Kent.

In accordance with the desire of Grand Lodge, the M. W. Grand Master was pleased to announce the following Brethren to compose a Special Committee on Foreign Jurisdiction, &c., &c., viz:—

The M. W. the Grand Master.

" " Bro. T. Douglas Harington, P. G. M.

" " " W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.

" " " A. Bernard, P. G. M.

R. " " James Seymour, Deputy Grand Master.

The consideration of the report of the Board was resumed.

On Benevolence.—See pages 105, 106 and 107.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. DeGrassi, and

RESOLVED, That the report of the Board on Benevolence be adopted.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, and

RESOLVED, That that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address which relates to the question of a Masonic School, be referred to a Special Committee, to be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, to consider and report at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge as to the propriety and feasibility of carrying the M. W. Grand Master's suggestion into effect.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, and

RESOLVED, That the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) be appropriated from the General Funds of Grand Lodge, and placed to the credit of the Fund of Benevolence.

In accordance with notice given,

It was moved by M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, seconded by V. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, and

RESOLVED, That the actual expenses only of Members of the Board of General Purposes, in attending the meetings of the Board at this annual communication of Grand Lodge, be paid.

Consideration of the report of the Board was resumed.

On Condition of Masonry.—See pages 107, 108, 109 and 110.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, and

RESOLVED, That the report of the Board on Condition of Masonry be adopted.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Milne, seconded by R.W. Bro. John E. Brooke, and unanimously

RESOLVED, That the thanks of Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to the Grand Trunk ; Great Western ; Buffalo and Lake Huron ; St. Lawrence and Ottawa ; Shefford, Stanstead and Chambly ; and Northern Railways—the Richelieu, the Ottawa and the Canadian Steam Navigation Companies—for having kindly extended to delegates the privilege of attending Grand Lodge at greatly reduced rates.

The committee on Credentials of Representatives and proxies, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:—

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Canada.

The Committee on Credentials beg leave to report, that there are One Hundred and Eighty-two Lodges represented at this communication; Sixty-six of which are by proxy—and the whole number of Members and Representatives are Two Hundred and Twenty-nine.

The Committee draw the attention of Grand Lodge to the fact, that among the proxies which came before them, a number were without the seal of the lodge as required by the Constitution. Also, that there are proxies which appear to have been filled out after the same had been signed by the proper officers of the lodge.

All-respectfully submitted.

ALLAN McLEAN,
CHARLES D. MACDONNELL,
EDSON KEMP.

GRAND LODGE, Montreal, }
July 16th, 1869. }

It was moved by R. W. Bro. B. C. Davy, seconded by W. Bro. A. Diamond, and unanimously

RESOLVED, That a cordial vote of thanks of Grand Lodge be tendered to the Committee on Credentials, for the efficient and satisfactory discharge of the duties devolving upon them.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. A. Murray, seconded by R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, and unanimously

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby cordially tendered to James Tasker, Esq., Principal of Bryant, Stratton & Tasker's Business College, for the gratuitous use of one of his rooms for the meetings of the Board of General Purposes.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by R. W. Bro. M. H. Spencer, and unanimously

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are eminently due, and are hereby most cordially tendered, to the Brethren of the Lodges under this jurisdiction in the City of Montreal, for the ample and most satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of this annual communication; as also for the magnificent hospitalities extended to all the Grand Officers and Representatives in attendance.

V. W. Bro. Allan McLean gave notice, that at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge he will move, that Section 7, "Of proposing Members," of the Constitution, be so amended that no candidate for initiation be accepted unless he receive the unanimous vote of the members present.

(Received too late to be inserted in its proper place in the printed proceedings.)

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit a report of the state of Freemasonry in the Wilson District.

In consequence of a severe illness during the early part of the winter, I was prevented making my visits to the lodges until near the close of the masonic year. Although late in the commencement, I am glad to be able to say that I met *all* the lodges in the district but two; and I have

much pleasure in being able, from personal knowlege, to congratulate Grand Lodge on the general harmony and prosperity prevailing among the Brethren; no subject of difference having arisen in any instance that has not been amicably arranged by the Brethren without official interference.

It was my intention to have incorporated in my report certain statistics for the information and gratification of Grand Lodge, showing the number of initiations, together with contributions for charitable purposes, and the property accumulated as well as the amount of funds in hand; and had I not been disappointed in getting returns from all the lodges, I would have exhibited a statement very much to the credit of the Brethren in the Wilson District; but as the varions Secretaries have not forwarded them in time, I am obliged to abandon the idea.

The lodges in this district are, with one exception, all working in accordance with the ritual of Grand Lodge; and I am pleased to say that a marked improvement has been made during the past two years, the officers presiding being in every instance well qualified for the discharge of their duties.

I have granted several dispensations during the year to celebrate our annual festivals; and I have reason to believe that the pleasure of the Brethren was promoted to some extent thereby, and I trust the good name of the Order was sustained.

Several deaths have occurred in the district during the year—some of them coming quite home to us—and I hope each has been the means of causing us to reflect upon our inevitable destiny. These deaths have all been reported as required to the Grand Secretary.

I regret that I am compelled to report the loss by fire of the furniture, jewels, library and all the records of Brant Lodge; the loss is very severe, although the furniture and library were insured, but their records no money can replace.

The lodge is in a very prosperous state, and I have no doubt, knowing the zeal and enterprise of the brethren composing Brant Lodge, that they will soon procure another suitable room and comfortably furnish it.

A dispensation was granted by the M. W. Grand Master to certain Brethren to open a lodge at Fredericksburg, in the County of Norfolk. I had the satisfaction of visiting the lodge, and although they had not had time to do much *work*, I believe the lodge will be well conducted and none but good material accepted for the building, and that the work will be properly done. I have placed the minute book of the lodge in the hands of the chairman of the committee on warrants, &c., and recommend that, if found correct, a warrant of confirmation be granted to Frederick Lodge.

In closing my report I would take the opportunity of expressing my most sincere thanks to the Brethren throughout the Wilson District, for their friendly and cordial support, and the kind consideration and sympathy extended to me during the past year, and which I shall ever gratefully remember.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

D. CURTIS,

D. D. G. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment at 6:15 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 8:30 o'clock P. M.

Present:

M. W. Bro. Alexander A. Stevenson, Grand Master,
On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master, proceeded with the investiture of the elective Grand Officers, as follows:—

R. W. Bro. James Seymour,	Deputy Grand Master.
" " " Peter J. Brown,	" Senior Warden.
" " " Daniel Thomas,	" Junior "
" " " Rev. H. Montgomery,	" Chaplain.
" " " Henry Groff,	" Treasurer.
" " " Silas B. Fairbanks,	" Registrar.
" " " Thomas Bird Harris,	" Secretary.
" " " Thomas Willings,	" Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke, Chatham,	London	District.
" " " David Curtis, Brantford	Wilson	"
" " " Thomas Matheson, Mitchell,	Huron	"
" " " Otto Klotz, Preston,	Wellington	"
" " " Isaac P. Willson, Welland,	Hamilton	District.
" " " James K. Kerr, Toronto,	Toronto	"
" " " William McCabe, Oshawa,	Ontario	"
" " " H. W. Delany, Trenton,	Prince Edward	"
" " " Thomas Wilkinson, Brockville,	St. Lawrence	"
" " " J. J. Gemmill, Ottawa,	Ottawa	"
" " " M. Gutman, Montreal,	Montreal	"
" " " Isaac H. Stearns, Lennoxville,	St. Francis	"
" " " H. L. Robinson, Waterloo,	Bedford	"
" " " Alexander Walker, Quebec,	Quebec	"

The M. W. Grand Master has been pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz:

V. W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, Toronto,	Grand Senior Deacon.
" " " I. B. Futvoye, St. Johns', P. Q.,	" Junior Deacon.
" " " Walter Chatfield, St. Catharines,	" Supt. of Works.
" " " Charles Sharpe, Guelph,	" Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " " W. T. Munday, Hamilton,	Asst. " Secretary.
" " " Thomas Munro, Ottawa,	Asst. " Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " " Robert Lewis, London,	" Sword Bearer.
" " " A. E. Fife, Brighton,	" Organist.
" " " William Nivin, Montreal,	Asst. " Organist.
" " " L. W. Decker, Phillipsburg,	" Pursuivant.
" " " Moses Betts, Welland,	} Grand Stewards.
" " " C. S. Rowe, Clarenceville,	
" " " D. McLellan, Toronto,	
" " " Robt. Peel McGinnis, St. Johns',	
" " " John Taylor, Brantford,	
" " " C. Boright, Sweetsburgh,	
" " " C. R. Ford, Colborne,	
" " " R. W. Laing, Waterloo,	
" " " D. McMurchy, Markham,	
" " " Abraham Diamond, Belleville,	
" " " W. T. Rickaby, Three Rivers,	}
" " " James Canfield, Ingersoll,	

The scrutineers of the ballot for members to serve on the Board of General Purposes for the ensuing term, reported the following named Brethren as having received the highest number of votes, and who were declared duly elected, viz:—

R. W. Bro. A. DeGrassi,	Toronto,	St. John's Lodge, No. 75.
M. " " A. Bernard,	Montreal,	St. George's " " 19.
R. " " W. H. Weller,	Cobourg,	St. John's " " 17.
V. " " Henry Robertson,	Collingwood, Manito	" " 90.
R. " " John Kerr,	Toronto,	St. John's " " 75.

FOR ONE YEAR.

R. W. Bro. J. Milne,	Bowmanville, Jerusalem Lodge No. 31.
" " " J. H. Graham,	Richmond, St. Francis, " " 67.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. McCabe, seconded by R. W. Bro. H. Macpherson, and

RESOLVED, That the hearty thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Board of Scrutineers, for the satisfactory discharge of the arduous labors in connection with their appointment.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to make the following appointments as members of the Board of General Purposes for the ensuing term, viz :—

V. W. Bro. B. E. Charlton,	Hamilton,	Barton Lodge, No. 6.
" " " Geo. Billington,	Strathroy,	St. John's " " 81.
" " " Allan McLean,	Ingersoll,	St. John's " " 62.
R. " " Geo. H. Borlase,	Sherbrooke,	Victoria " " 71.
" " " Frank Edgar,	Montreal,	Royal Albert " " 167.

FOR ONE YEAR.

" " " Æmilius Irving,	Hamilton,	Alma " " 72.
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It was moved by R. W. Bro. Milne, seconded by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz,

That the prayer of the petitioners for a Warrant of Constitution to open a Lodge at the Village of Uxbridge be granted.

In amendment,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. W. W. Pringle, seconded by V. W. Bro. Allan McLean,

That the prayer of the petitioners be not granted, but that the papers be referred back to the D. D. G. Master for the Ontario District.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared adopted.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to announce the following Brethren as the Committee on the subject of the establishment of a Freemason's School, viz :—

M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson ; R. W. Bro. M. Gutman, and W. Bro. James C. Brown.

The business of Grand Lodge being finished, it was closed in *Ample* form, with solemn prayer, at 10:30 o'clock P. M.

ATTEST.



W. B. Harris

G. Sec'y.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT.

THOMAS B. HARRIS, *Grand Secretary, in Account Current with the Grand Lodge. Moneys received from the 1st January to the 31st December, 1868.*

NO.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.	NO.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.
			Brought forward,		
—	Antiquity, Montreal....	26 00	53	Shefford, Waterloo....	51 75
1	Prevost, Dunham.....	98 00	54	Vaughan, Maple.....	54 00
2	Niagara, Niagara.....	20 25	55	Mirickville, Mirickville	48 00
3	St. John's, Kingston....	103 75	56	Victoria, Sarnia.....	93 75
4	Dorchester, St. Johns'..	23 00	58	Doric, Ottawa.....	94 50
5	Sussex, Brockville.....	57 50	59	Corinthian, Ottawa....	66 50
6	Barton, Hamilton.....	86 50	60	Hoyle, La Colle.....	6 00
7	Union, Grimsby.....	32 50	61	Acacia, Hamilton.....	45 50
9	Union, Napanee.....	63 00	62	St. Andrew's, Caledonia	30 00
10	Norfolk, Simcoe.....	35 25	64	Kilwinning, London...	57 75
11	Moria, Belleville.....	35 25	66	Durham, Newcastle...	29 25
12	Golden Rule, Stanstead.	129 00	67	St. Francis, Richmond,	48 25
14	True Briton's, Perth....	2 00	68	St. John's, Ingersoll...	39 25
15	St. George's, St. Catharines	40 25	69	Stirling, Stirling.....	43 50
16	St. Andrew's, Toronto..	144 75	71	Victoria, Sherbrooke...	51 00
18	Prince Edward's, Picton,	40 00	72	Alma, Galt.....	74 25
19	St. George's, Montreal..	33 00	73	St. James's, St. Mary's.	46 92
20	St. John's, London.....	102 00	74	St. James's, Maitland..	27 00
21	Zetland, Montreal.....	46 50	75	St. John's, Toronto....	113 00
22	King Solomon's, Toronto,	148 75	76	Oxford, Woodstock....	50 75
23	Richmond, Richmond Hill	25 00	77	Faithful Breth., Lindsay	28 00
25	Ionic, Toronto.....	81 75	78	King Hiram, Tilsonb'g,	24 60
26	Ontario, Port Hope.....	58 85	79	Simcoe, Bradford.....	18 00
27	St. Ct. Observance, Hamilt'n	50 75	80	Albion, Newbury.....	38 68
28	Mount Zion, Kemptville,	37 50	81	St. John's, Mt. Brydges,	32 00
29	United, Brighton.....	27 00	82	St. John's, Paris.....	81 00
30	Composite, Whitby.....	28 00	84	Clinton, Clinton.....	12 75
31	Jerusalem, Bowmanville	26 25	85	Rising Sun, Farmersv'le	40 00
32	Amity, Dunnville.....	91 25	86	Wilson, Toronto.....	137 75
34	Thistle, Amherstburg...	23 50	87	Mark Union, Markham.	10 00
35	St. John's, Cayuga.....	28 00	88	St. George's, O. Sound..	48 25
36	Welland, Fonthill.....	56 25	90	Manito, Collingwood..	55 17
37	King Hiram, Ingersoll..	59 50	91	Colborne, Colborne...	31 50
38	Trent, Trenton.....	20 00	92	Cataraqui, Kingston...	113 75
39	Mount Zion, Brooklin..	49 50	93	Northern Lt. Kincardine	42 75
40	St. John's, Hamilton...	39 50	94	St. Mark's, Pt. Stanley.	46 50
41	St. George's, Kingsville.	10 00	95	Ridout, Otterville.....	51 25
43	King Solomon's, Woods'k	32 75	96	Corinthian, Barrie.....	17 00
44	St. Thomas, St. Thomas,	31 00	97	Sharon, Sharon.....	28 75
45	Brant, Brantford.....	107 25	98	True Blue, Albion.....	22 75
46	Wellington, Chatham...	107 50	99	Tuscan, Newmarket...	10 00
47	Great Western, Windsor	95 75	100	Valley, Dundas.....	64 00
48	Madoc, Madoc.....	39 00	101	Corinthian, Peterboro'.	32 25
49	Harington, Quebec.....	48 42	103	Maple Leaf, St. Cathar'n's	159 75
50	Consecon, Consecon....	45 00	104	St. John's, Norwichville	26 00
51	Corinthian, Grahamville.	7 50	105	St. Mark's, Drummond'le	48 00

Carried forward.

Carried forward.

Grand Secretary's Account Current.—(CONTINUED.)

NO.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.	NO.	NAMES OF LODGES.	\$ cts.
	Brought forward,			Brought forward,	
106	Burford, Burford.....	43 50	163	Browne, West Farnham	28 75
107	St. Paul's, Lambeth...	19 00	164	Star in the East, Well'n	45 00
108	Blenheim, Drumbo....	31 00	165	Burlington, W. Square,	15 50
109	Albion, Harrowsmith..	19 50	166	Wentworth, S. Creek..	14 00
110	Central, Prescott.....	164 30	167	Royal Albert, Montreal,	70 00
112	Maitland, Goderich...	50 92	168	Merritt, Welland.....	44 00
114	Hope, Port Hope.....	5 50	169	Macnab, P'rt Colborne,	30 00
115	Ivy, Smithville.....	21 75	170	Britannia, Seaforth....	33 50
116	Cassia, Widder.....	25 50	171	Prince of Wales, Iona..	52 00
117	Stanbridge, Stanbridge,	56 50	172	Ayr, Ayr.....	11 50
118	Union, Lloydtown.....	6 76	173	Victoria, Montreal.....	90 50
119	Maple Leaf, Bath.....	42 75	174	Walsingham, Pt. Rowan	27 55
120	Warren, Fingal,.....	8 92	176	Spartan, Sparta.....	14 50
121	Doric, Brantford.....	45 75	177	The Builders', Ottawa.	78 75
122	Renfrew, Renfrew.....	8 75	178	Plattsville, Plattsville.	15 75
123	TheBelleville,Bellev'le,	107 95	179	Bothwell, Bothwell....	52 00
124	Montreal Kilwinning..	105 75	180	Speed, Guelph.....	128 00
126	GoldenRule,Cam'b'llsfd	44 00	181	Oriental, Port Burwell,	47 80
127	Franck, Frankford....	70 15	182	Tuscan, Levis.....	40 60
128	Pembroke, Pembroke..	36 75	183	Prince Albert, P. Albert	59 50
129	The Rising Sun, Aurora	65 00	184	Old Light, Lucknow..	34 00
130	Yamaska, Granby.....	17 75	185	Enniskillen, York.....	10 25
131	St. Lawrence, South'pton	26 00	186	Plantagenet, Plant'gen't	21 00
133	Lebanon Fst, Francest'n	40 00	187	Rl Canadian, Sweetsburg	59 00
134	Shawenegam, T. Rivers	18 78	188	Ascot, Lennoxville....	17 75
135	St. Clair, Milton.....	49 28	189	Filius Viduæ,.....	26 25
136	Richardson, Stouffville,	1 00	190	Belmont, Belmont....	35 00
137	Pythagoras, Meaford...	36 50	191	Ashlar, Coaticook.....	32 50
139	Lebanon, Oshawa.....	52 25	192	Orillia, Orillia.....	75
140	Malahide, Aylmer.....	26 00	193	Scotland, Scotland....	40 75
141	Tudor, Mitchell.....	24 25	194	Petrolia, Petrolia.....	81 50
142	Excel-sior, Morrisburgh,	101 50	195	The Tuscan, London..	10 00
143	Friendly Brothers, Iro.	22 50	196	Madawaska, Arnprior..	19 85
144	Tecumseh, Stratford ..	37 75	197	Saugeen, Walkerton...	17 88
145	J B. Hall, Millbrook..	25 60	198	White Oak, Oakville..	20 00
146	Prince of Wales, New'g	73 75	199	Frelighsburgh, Frel'brg	30 00
148	Civil Service, Ottawa..	33 00	200	St. Alban's, Mt. Forest.	51 34
149	Erie, Port Dover.....	48 50	201	Leeds, Gananoque....	79 75
150	Hastings, Hastings....	13 00	202	Mount Royal, Montreal,	61 25
151	TheGrand River, Berlin	51 91	203	Irvine, Elora.....	56 50
152	Clarenceville, Clar'ville	17 50	204	Doric, Danville.....	30 00
153	Burns, Wyoming.....	44 75	205	New Dominion, New H.	71 50
154	Irving, Lucan.....	41 50	U. D. Lancaster, Lancaster.	20 00	
155	Peterboro', Peterboro'..	34 75	U. D. North Gower, N. G.	20 00	
156	York, Eglinton.....	25 00	Constitutions.....	5 10	
157	Simpson, Newboro'....	54 00	Proceedings.....	0 50	
158	Alexandra, Oil Springs,	39 50	D. D. G. M. Huron D..	2 00	
160	Quebec Garrison, Que..	63 25	Special Dispensation...	1 00	
161	Percy, Warkworth.....	21 25	D. D. G. M., P. E. D...	3 00	
162	Forest, Wroxeter.....	35 00	A. Murray.....	14 50	
Carried forward.			Total.....\$8,612 73		

For Certificates.....	\$2,545 00
" Dues.....	3,756 85
" Fees.....	1,533 00
" Dispositions.....	288 00
" Warrants.....	130 00
" Constitutions.....	311 14
" Proceedings.....	48 74
	<hr/>
	\$8,612 73
Audited and found correct.	JAMES SEYMOUR, P. B. G. P.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.—INVESTMENT ACCOUNT.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer.

	\$	cts.
1868.		
January 4.—By balance at credit of this account, as audited,.....	7,890	24
April 2.— " transferred from General Fund Account, 10 per cent. of receipts in 1867.....	734	90
1869.		
January 2.—By amount at credit of this Account.....	\$8,625	14
Simcoe, 2nd January, 1869.		
	E. E.	HENRY GROFF, <i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
	Audited and found correct.	JAMES SEYMOUR, P. B. G. P.

Dr.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

1868.					Am't.	Days to	Int
					\$ cts.	31st Dec.	\$ cts.
Feb'y	5.—	To	Check	No.	85 00	146	1
	18.—	"	"	"	8000 00	133	116
	20.—	"	"	"	179 40	131	21
	27.—	"	"	"	12 10		
	28.—	"	"	"	7 15		
		"	"	"	20 00	124	0
		"	"	"	30 00		
		"	"	"	30 00		
		"	"	"	9 09		
		"	"	"	49 17		
		"	"	"	21 75		
		"	"	"	2 00		
		"	"	"	100 00	123	3
	29.—	"	"	"	20 00	122	0
March	2.—	"	"	"	25 00	120	0
	3.—	"	"	"	440 00	119	5
	5.—	"	"	"	16 25	117	0
		"	"	"	30 00		
		"	"	"	384 49		
		"	"	"	150 00	116	7
	7.—	"	"	"	5 75		
		"	"	"	20 00		
		"	"	"	20 00	115	0
	9.—	"	"	"	20 00	113	0
	13.—	"	"	"	20 00	110	0
	14.—	"	"	"	15 00	109	0
	19.—	"	"	"	15 00		
		"	"	"	20 00	104	0
	25.—	"	"	"	20 00	98	0
	27.—	"	"	"	25 00	96	0
	28.—	"	"	"	20 00	95	0
April	2.—	"	"	"	300 00	90	2
	18.—	"	"	"	40 00	74	0
June	13.—	"	"	"	31 00	17	0
	30.—	"	"	"	81 80		
		"	"	"	20 38		
		"	"	"	8 37		
		"	"	"	30 00		
		"	"	"	300 00		
Interest balance,							6

To balance,..... 2,464 90

\$13,088 60

GORE BANK, SIMCOE, 2nd January, 1869.

Audited and found correct

account current with the Gore Bank, Simcoe Branch.

Cr.

1868.		Am't.	Days to	Int't.
		\$ cts.	31st Dec.	\$ cts.
January	4.—By balance per acc't rendered, ..	7886 53	182	157 73
	11.—" deposited by H. Groff,	736 42	171	13 79
	17.—" " "	300 00	165	5 42
	23.—" " "	327 50	159	5 69
February	7.—" " "	252 75	144	3 99
	11.—" " "	208 60	140	3 20
	27.—" " "	85 25	124	1 15
	28.—" " "	180 00	123	2 43
March	6.—" " "	129 25		
	" " "	560 00	116	8 80
	11.—" " "	13 15	111	0 15
	14.—" " "	128 75	109	1 55
	23.—" " "	160 25	100	1 76
April	2.—" " "	237 00	90	2 35
May	1.—" " "	123 25	60	0 81
	12.—" " "	116 06	49	0 62
	22.—" " "	183 00	39	0 74
June	27.—" " "	400 00	3	0 13
	30.—" " "	420 00		
	" " "	48 00		
July	2.—" " "	526 47		

\$210 31

Balance of interest..... 66 37

\$13,088 60

By balance bro't down... \$2,464 90

DUNCAN CAMERON, *Manager.*JAMES SEYMOUR, *P. B. G. P.*

Dr. The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada

1868.			Am't.	Days to	Int.
			\$ cts.	31st Dec.	\$ ct
July	22.—To cheque No.	22.....	90 75	162	1 60
	24.—" " "	13.....	20 00	160	0 35
	25.—" " "	27.....	4 00		
		3.....	50 00		
		10.....	50 00		
		24.....	42 50	159	1 97
		25.....	5 00		
		26.....	31 40		
		28.....	100 00	159	4 91
	27.—" " "	14.....	40 00		
		21.....	332 40		
		23.....	9 95	157	6 63
	31.—" " "	16.....	50 00	153	0 83
August	4.—" " "	4.....	100 00		
		29.....	100 00	149	3 27
	5.—" " "	12.....	20 00		
		18.....	20 00		
		20.....	20 00	148	0 89
	7.—" " "	19.....	20 00	146	0 32
	10.—" " "	30.....	7 50	143	0 11
	12.—" " "	7.....	40 00		
		8.....	40 00		
		11.....	60 00	141	2 16
	15.—" " "	15.....	20 00		
		31.....	537 36	138	8 42
	18.—" " "	5.....	50 00		
		9.....	25 00	135	1 11
	22.—" " "	17.....	40 00	131	0 64
Sept'r	5.—" " "	2.....	25 00	117	0 32
	23.—" " "	97.....	25 00	99	0 27
	29.—" " "	1.....	20 00	93	0 20
Oct'ber	2.—" " "	32.....	300 00	90	2 97
	18.—" " "	6.....	20 00	73	0 16
Dec'r	31.—" " "	33.....	300 00		
		34.....	30 00		
	Balance of interest.....				66 12
					<hr/>
					\$101 30
			Balance.... 4,949 70		
			<hr/>		
			\$7,595 56		

GORE BANK, SIMCOE, 4th January, 1869.

E. J.

Audited and found correct.

Account current with the Gore Bank, Simcoe Branch.

Cr.

1868.		Am't.	Days to	Int't.
		\$ cts.	31st Dec.	\$ cts.
July 2.—	By balance per acc't rendered..	2,464 90	184	49 30
21.—	" deposited by Henry Groff..	1,850 00	163	33 03
28.—	" " " " ...	200 00	156	3 43
Aug't 22.—	" " " " ...	200 00	131	2 82
Sept'r 17.—	" " " " ...	78 36	105	0 87
27.—	" " " " ...	150 00	95	1 57
Octo'r 2.—	" " " " ...	250 00	90	2 47
13.—	" " " " ...	120 00	79	1 04
29.—	" " " " ...	840 00	63	5 65
Nov'r 27.—	" " " " ...	223 00	34	0 83
Dec'r 9.—	" " " " ...	121 47	22	0 29
31.—	" " " " ...	48 00		
	" " " " ...	250 00		
1869.				
Jan'y 4.—	" " " " ...	733 71		
	" balance of int't brought over,	66 12		

\$101 30

\$7,595 56

By 4.—By balance bearing interest at
4 per cent. from January
1st, 1869..... \$4,949 70

DUNCAN CAMPBELL, *Manager.*

JAMES SEYMOUR, *P. B. G. P.*

MASONIC ASYLUM FUND

Dr. The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer. Cr.

1868.	\$ cts.	1868.	\$ cts.
August 14.—To paid the order of the President Board of General Purposes, No. 31 to Bros. Tully, Harman, DeGrassi and Bain.....	537 36	January 4.—By balance at credit of this account as rendered and audited.....	519 19
		March 6.—“ interest on this Fund's proportion of Provincial Debentures for six months.....	18 17
	<u>\$537 36</u>		<u>\$ 537 36</u>

SIMCOE, 2nd January, 1869.

E. E.

Audited and found correct.

HENRY GROFF, *Grand Treasurer.*

JAMES SEYMOUR, P. B. G. P.

The Bank of Montreal, Toronto, in account with the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada by the M. A. Trust Fund Committee.

1868.	\$ cts.	1868.	\$ cts.
October 2.—By overdrawn by the Asylum Trust Fund Committee.....	6 99		
1869.			
January 2.—“ amount at credit of this account.....	6 99		

SIMCOE, 2nd January, 1869.

E. E.

Audited and found correct.

HENRY GROFF, *Grand Treasurer.*

JAMES SEYMOUR, P. B. G. P.

MASONIC ASYLUM TRUST FUND.

Dr. *The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer.* Cr.

1868.	\$	cts.	1868.	\$	cts.
Oct'r 2.—To premium, 1 per cent., on \$4,800 Domin'n			Dec'r 31.—By the amount in the hands of the Trust,		
Stock purchased by the Trust.....	48	00	as per their report of 3rd July, 1868,		
" Broker's fee paid by the Trust to J. C.			viz: Provincial Debentures, \$3,800 ;		
Small, Esq.....	5	00	Bank of Montreal, \$364 04.....	4,164	04
Balance.....	4,793	01	" paid to the Trust by the Grand Treas.		
			12th August, 1868.....	537	36
			" interest from Bank of Montreal, 31st		
			July, 1868.....	2	24
			" interest on Provincial Debentures, 23rd		
			September, 1868....	133	00
			" interest on Bank of Montreal, 31st		
			October, 1868....	9	37
				\$4,846	01
			1869.		
			Jan'y 2.—By balance at credit of this Fund.....	\$4,793	01

SIMCOE, 2nd January, 1869.

E. E.

HENRY GROFF, *Grand Treasurer.*

Audited and found correct.

JAMES SEYMOUR, *P. B. G. P.*

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.—CURRENT ACCOUNT.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
1868.		1868.	
Feb'ry	To paid orders of the President of the Board of General Purposes on the Grand Treasurer, as follows:—	Jan'y 4.—By balance at credit of this account as rendered and audited.....	\$ cts. 263 90
	27.—Paid order No. 101, Mrs. C.....	March 6.—“ 6 months' interest on Provincial Debentures, \$560, (less \$18 17 credited Asylum Fund,).....	541 83
	28.—“ “ 105, Mrs. D.....	11.—“ interest on Dominion Stock, \$8,000, from 19th to 29th February.....	13 15
	29.—“ “ 107, Mrs. W.....	June 30.—“ 6 months' interest on County of Middlesex Debentures.....	48 00
	2.—“ “ 95, Bro. B.....	“ interest on Gore Bank deposit for past six months.....	66 37
March	2.—“ “ 104, Bro. Q.....	Sept. 17.—“ difference of interest on Provincial Debentures, as per letter of the Bank of Montreal, Ottawa, dated 14th Sept., 1868.....	78 36
	6.—“ “ 106, Bro. J.....	Oct. 29.—“ 7 months' interest, to 30th Sept., on Dominion Stock, \$24,000.....	840 00
	7.—“ “ 99, Bro. J. C.....	Dec. 31.—“ 6 months' interest on County of Middlesex Debentures.....	48 00
	“ “ 100, Mrs. C.....	“ interest on Gore Bank deposit for past six months.....	66 12
	9.—“ “ 94, Mrs. E. F.....		
April	13.—“ “ 98, Mrs. D.....		
	14.—“ “ 108, Bro. J. McG.....		
	19.—“ “ 103, Mrs. B.....		
	“ “ 102, Mrs. W.....		
	“ “ 92, Bro. F.....		
July	25.—“ “ 121, Mrs. K.....		
	27.—“ “ 93, Mrs. H.....		
	28.—“ “ 91, Mrs. W.....		
	19.—“ “ 13, Bro. C. B.....		
	24.—“ “ 3, Mrs. P.....		
August	25.—“ “ 10, Mrs. A.....		
	“ “ 16, Bro. W.....		
	“ “ 14, Mrs. D.....		
	27.—“ “ “		
	4.—“ “ 4, Or. of Bro. C.....		

"	"	29, Mrs. R., for the educa- tion of her son.....	100 00
5.—	"	12, Mrs. W.....	20 00
	"	18, Mrs. F.....	20 00
	"	20, Mrs. P.....	20 00
7.—	"	19, Mrs. McK.....	20 00
12.—	"	7, Mrs. N.....	40 00
	"	8, Mrs. F.....	40 00
	"	11, Bro. W. S.....	60 00
15.—	"	15, Mrs. S.....	20 00
18.—	"	5, Mrs. W.....	50 00
	"	9, Bro. W. F.....	25 00
22.—	"	17, Mrs. K.....	40 00
Sept'ber 5.—	"	2, Mrs. P.....	25 00
26.—	"	97, Bro. J. H. W.....	25 00
29.—	"	1, Mrs. B.....	20 00
Oct'ber 9.—	"	6, Mrs. D.....	20 00
		Balance	720 73
			<hr/>
			\$1,965 73
			<hr/>
			1869.
			January 2.—By balance at credit of this account..
			<hr/>
			\$720 73

Simcoe, 2nd January, 1869.

E. E.

Henry Groff, Grand Treasurer.

To which may be added interest on Dominion Stock
accrued to 31st Dec., which will be available on
1st April, when the half-year is due.....

\$360 00

Audited and found correct.

James Seymour, P. G. B. P.

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer.—(DEBENTURES.) Dr.

	1868.	1869.	
Jan. 4.—To balance at credit of this acct., being for County debentures.....	\$ 1,600 00		
Provincial "	16,000 00		
	<u>17,600 00</u>		
		\$17,600 00	
Jan. 2.—To balance at credit of this account, being County Debentures.....	\$1,600 00		
SIMCOE, 2nd January, 1869,		E. E.	
		Audited and found correct.	
			\$17,600 00

HENRY GROFF, *Grand Treasurer.*
JAMES SEYMOUR, *P. B. G. P.*

The Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada in account with HENRY GROFF, Grand Treasurer.—(STOCKS.)

	1868.	1869.	
Feb'y 19.—To Dominion Stock—6 per cent. interest, payable 30th Sept. and 31st March each year, under the control of the President of the B. G. P., Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.....	8,000 00		
Sept'r 17.— " Dominion Stock—same as above, under control of same officers.....	16,000 00		
October 2.— " Dominion Stock—same as above, under the control of the Asylum Trust Committee.....	4,800 00		
January 2.— " amount at debit of this account.....		\$28,800 00	
			E. E.
			HENRY GROFF, <i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
SIMCOE, 2nd January, 1869.			JAMES SEYMOUR, <i>P. B. G. P.</i>
			Audited and found correct.

BALANCE SHEET.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
1868.		1868.	
Dec'ber 31.—Debentures.....	\$ 1,600 00	Dec. 31.—General Fund.....	\$ cts. 21,203 83
Dominion Stock.....	28,800 00	Fund of Benevolence (current account).	720 73
Gore Bank, Simcoe.....	4,949 70	Fund of Benevolence, (Invest't account)	8,625 14
		Masonic Asylum Fund (under control of the Trust).....	4,793 01
		Bank of Montreal, at Toronto.....	6 99
	<u>\$35,349 70</u>		<u>\$35,349 70</u>

Simcoe, 2nd January, 1869.

E. E.

HENRY GROFF, *Grand Treasurer.*

Audited and found correct.

JAMES SEYMOUR, *P. B. G. P.*

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE LODGES, RENDERED 24th JUNE, 1869.

Lodges marked () hold their Installation of Officers on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist; all others on that of St. John the Baptist.*

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
—	*Antiquity Lodge ..	Montreal	First Thursday	W. Br. M. Gutman.	Br. R. Rowe.
1	*Prevost	Dunham	Tuesday on or preceding f. m.	" Edson Kemp ..	" C. E. C. Brown.
2	Niagara	Niagara	Wednesday on or before full moon	" J. M. Clement ..	" W. G. Donnelly.
3	*St. John's	Kingston	First Thursday	" G. M. Wilkinson	" John M. Horsey.
4	*Dorchester	St. John's	First Tuesday	" R. P. McGinnis.	" E. R. Smith.
5	*Sussex	Brockville ..	Wednesday on or preceding f. m.	" W. McKechnie.	" Alex. Stewart.
6	Barton	Hamilton	Second Wednesday	" W. T. Munday.	" W. H. Leslie.
7	Union	Grimsby	Thursday on or before full moon.	" Robt. Kemp ..	" James A. Nelles.
8	*Nelson	Phillipsburgh	Thursday on or before full moon.	" L. W. Dicker ..	" P. E. Luke.
9	*Union	Napanee	Friday on or before full moon	" F. Richardson ..	" Charles James.
10	*Norfolk	Simcoe	Tuesday on or before full moon	" A. J. Donly	" Amos A. Merrill.
11	*Moir	Belleville ..	Wednesday or or preceding f. m.	" A. Diamond	" James Peard.
12	*Golden Rule	Stanstead ..	Tuesday on or before full moon ..	" B. C. Parsons ..	" Henry C. Hyatt.
14	*True Briton's	Perth	First Monday	" Robt. Miller ..	" James Bell.
15	St. George's	St. Catharines	Tuesday on or before full moon ..	" A. Chatfield ..	" Robert Kane.
16	St. Andrew's	Toronto	Second Tuesday	" G. Hodgetts ..	" W. L. Wilkinson.
17	St. John's	Cobourg	Monday on or before full moon ..	" J. F. Mallory ..	" W. H. Weller.
18	*Prince Edward's ..	Pictou	Thursday on or preceding f. m.	" J. N. Carter ..	" Thos. Shannon
19	*St. George's	Montreal	Third Tuesday	" Aldis Bernard ..	" F. M. Sowdon.
20	*St. John's	London	Second Tuesday	" Graham Glass ..	" J. H. Bell.
21	*Zetland	Montreal	Second Thursday	" W. Armstrong.	" John Hay.
22	King Solomon's	Toronto	Second Thursday	" D. McLellan ..	" Chas. L. Roberts.
23	Richmond	Richm'd Hill	Monday on or before full moon ..	" A. Macbeth ..	" Robt. H. Hall.
25	*Ionic	Toronto	First Tuesday	" R. P. Stephens.	" L. J. Gordon.
26	*Ontario	Port Hope ..	Third Thursday	" J. Marshall ..	" J. H. Helm.
27	*Strict Observance ..	Hamilton	Third Tuesday	" W. W. Pringle.	" J. J. Mason.
28	*Mount Zion	Kemptville ..	Wednesday preceding full moon.	" Murdoch Gair ..	" W. R. Anderson.
29	*United	Brighton	Thursday on or before full moon.	" Joseph Davey ..	" W. A. Maybaw.
30	*Composite	Whitby	First Thursday	" C. A. Jones	" George E. Annes.

32	*Amity	Dunnville...	Wednesday on or after f. m.	"	" J. Milne	" A. Gowers.
34	*Thistle	Amherstburg	Tuesday before full moon	"	" T. L. M. Tipton	" C. E. S. Black.
35	*St. John's	Cayuga	Thursday on or after full moon..	"	" George Gott ..	" John A. Kane.
36	*Welland	Fonthill	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" J. Hoshall	" Joseph Hursell.
37	*King Hiram	Ingersoll	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" David Killins..	" D. W. Horton.
38	*Trent	Trenton	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" J. Canfield	" J. M. Wilson.
39	*Mount Zion	Brooklin	Tuesday on or preceding f. m.	"	" John Dench	" A. H. Wright.
40	*St. John's	Hamilton	Third Thursday	"	" J. P. Campbell.	"
41	*St. George's	Kingsville ..	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" Thos. B. Harris	" Alex. Rutherford.
42	*St. George's	London	First Wednesday	"	" P. C. McDonald.	" J. S. Middough.
43	*King Solomon's	Woodstock ..	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" G. Burdett	" David Borland.
44	*St. Thomas	St. Thomas..	First Thursday	"	" John Oswald ..	" Chas. E. McGee.
45	*Brant	Brantford ..	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" T. D. Warren..	" W. Mickleboro'.
46	*Wellington	Chatham	Second Monday	"	" Fred. Mudge ..	" W. C. Trimble.
47	*Great Western	Windsor	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" W. Caruthers ..	" Allen D. Bogart.
48	*Madoc	Madoc	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" James Gibson ..	" Thos. Burnie..
49	*Harington	Quebec	Third Thursday	"	" B. H. Maybee..	" Jas. O'Hara, jr.
50	*Consecon	Consecon	Friday on or before full moon..	"	" S. J. Burnslem.	" Henry Hughes.
51	*Corinthian	Grahamville.	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" J. M'G. Young.	" Levi C. Bailey.
53	*Shefford	Waterloo	First Monday	"	" Joseph Figg	" C. Burrell.
54	*Vaughan	Maple	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" R. W. Laing	" John Blackwood.
55	*Mirickville	Mirickville..	Tuesday after full moon	"	" J. E. Davies	" Henry Hurst.
56	*Victoria	Sarnia	Tuesday on or before full moon .	"	" D. Gwynne	" P. Y. Merrick.
57	*Harmony	Bimbrook	Monday after full moon	"	" J. F. Lister	" Wm. Taylor.
58	*Doric	Ottawa	First Wednesday	"	" J. Brown Jun..	" Robt. H. Biggar.
59	*Corinthian	Ottawa	Third Thursday	"	" J. Sweetland ..	" D. P. Williams.
60	*Hoyle	La Colle	Second Tuesday	"	" I. B. Taylor	" Alex. H. Taylor.
61	*Acacia	Hamilton	Fourth Friday	"	" D. Galt	" D. Vosburgh.
62	*St. Andrew's	Caledonia	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" Ed. Mitchell ..	" H. Murray.
64	*Kilwinning	London	Third Thursday	"	" W. E. Broderick	" Thos B. Howells.
66	*Durham	Newcastle..	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" T. F. M'Mullen.	" H. A. Baxter.
67	*St. Francis	Richmond ..	First Thursday	"	" John Waddell ..	" M. W. Bayly.
68	*St. John's	Ingersoll	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" A. W. Hamilton	" E. Cleveland.
69	*Stirling	Stirling	Thursday after full moon	"	" W. J. Allison..	" J. B. Crawford.
				"	" Charles Craige..	" R. Finch.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES—[CONTINUED.]

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY
71	*Victoria	Sherbrooke..	Second Tuesday	W.Br. H.R. Beckett.	Br. Ed. Bartlett.
72	Alma	Galt.....	Thursday on or before full moon.	" John Barbour..	" A. G. Blunsley.
73	*St. James'	St. Mary's...	First Monday	" G. H. Marlatt..	" C. Von Gunten.
74	*St. James'	Maitland....	Monday nearest full moon	" J. T. Culbert ..	" S. A. Horton.
75	St. John's	Toronto.....	First Monday	" F. J. Menet ...	" John S. Champ.
76	*Oxford	Woodstock..	Second Wednesday	" E. A. Fauquier	" Chas. L. Beard.
77	*Faithful Brethren	Lindsay	First Thursday	" H. Gladman ...	" Thos. Beall.
78	*King Hiram	Tilsonburgh.	Wednesday on or before full moon	" Thos. B. Bain..	" Thos. Leduc.
79	Simeoe	Bradford	Thursday after full moon	" T. W. H. Wilson	" Thos. Dewson.
80	Albion	Newbury	First Tuesday	" G. Mansfield..	" Andrew Wilson.
81	*St. John's	Mt. Brydges.	Tuesday on or before full moon..	" G. Billington..	" Edward Handy.
82	St. John's	Paris	First Tuesday	" Wm. Winter...	" Robt. Patterson.
83	*Beaver	Strathroy ...	Friday on or after full moon	" J. Sommerville.	" C. H. MacIntosh.
84	Clinton	Clinton	Wednesday on or after full moon	"	" W. R. Watts.
85	Rising Sun	Farmersville.	Thursday nearest full moon.....	"	" W. H. Giles.
86	*Wilson	Toronto.....	Third Tuesday	" R. Robinson...	" Frank Hillock.
87	Markham Union	Markham ...	Friday on or before full moon...	" D. McMurchy ..	" H. R. Corson.
88	St. George's	Owen Sound..	Wednesday on or before full moon	" D. A. Creaser..	" James Buchan.
90	*Manito	Collingwood.	Wednesday on or after full moon	" E. R. Carpenter	" A. M. Sutherland.
91	*Colborne	Colborne....	Friday on or before full moon ...	" J. D. Henderson	" A. Vars.
92	*Catawaqui	Kingston	Second Wednesday	" R. Hendry, Jun.	" J. Greenfield, jr.
93	*Northern Light	Kincardine..	Thursday on or after full moon..	" Ross Robertson.	" Jas. LeGar.
94	*St. Mark's	Port Stanley.	Second Tuesday	" N. S. McCall ...	" Lauchlin Leitch.
95	Ridout.....	Otterville	Thursday on or before full moon.	" R. L. Mann ...	" Wm. P. Conklin.
96	*Corinthian	Barrie	Thursday on or before full moon.	" Robt. King ...	" A. B. McPhee.
97	*Sharon	Sharon	Tuesday or or before full moon..	" Henry Mosier..	" Henry Watson.
98	True Blue	Albion.....	Friday on or before full moon	" Robt Dick.....	" John Gilmour.
99	*Tuscan	Newmarket ..	Second Wednesday	" E. Jackson	" T. Roadhouse.
100	Valley	Dundas.....	Friday on or before full moon ...	" N. Greening...	" J. S. Baillic.
101	*Corinthian	Peterboro' ..	Wednesday after full moon.....	" R. Kincaid	" W. N. Kennedy.

104	St. John's	Norwichville.	Wednesday after full moon....	"	" Geo. Groves	" Peter McCarthy.
105	St. Mark's	Drum'dville	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" J. Haken	" William Topham
106	*Burford	Burford	Wednesday on or before f. m....	"	" J. Hartman	" John Wills.
107	St. Paul's	Lambeth	Second Wednesday	"	" F. Mudge	" John Findlay.
108	Blenheim	Drumbo	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" D. Borland	" Eli L. Davis.
109	Albion	Harrowsmith	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" S. D. Brown...	" Robt. A. Laidlaw
110	*Central	Prescott	First Tuesday	"	" G. Creggan...	" James Cooke.
112	Maitland	Goderich	Second Tuesday	"	" E. W. Beaver..	" Chris. Moore.
113	*Wilson	Waterford ..	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" I. F. Toms	" W. R. Squire.
114	*Hope	Port Hope...	First Thursday	"	" Wm. Allan	"
115	*Ivy	Smithville ..	Tuesday on or after full moon...	"	" Joseph Gray ..	" G. L. Fisk.
116	*Cassia	Widder	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" Jas. S. Bates...	" W. V. Hare.
117	*Stanbridge	Stanbridge ..	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" A. S. Proctor ..	" H. M. Atkinson.
118	Union	Lloydtown ..	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" C. A. Rice	" A. H. J. Gilmour
119	*Maple Leaf	Bath	Monday before full moon	"	" H. G. Summers.	"
120	Warren	Fingal	Second Thursday	"	" B. C. Davy	" J. G. McT. Ross.
121	*Doric	Brantford ...	Friday on or preceding full moon	"	" M. Campbell ..	" George Glasgow.
122	*Renfrew	Renfrew	Tuesday nearest full moon.....	"	" Samuel Hall....	" James P. Excell.
123	*The Belleville	Belleville	First Thursday	"	" T. B. Muir	" John Burns.
124	*Montreal Kilwin'g	Montreal	Second Monday	"	" Donald Bain ..	" J. P. Thomas.
125	*Cornwall	Cornwall	First Tuesday	"	" J. P. Peavey...	" W. H. Hall.
126	*Golden Rule	Campbells'd	Tuesday on or after full moon...	"	" P. B. Martin....	" Charles Pool.
127	*Franken	Frankford ...	Monday before full moon	"	" Hugh O'Niel....	" James Archer.
128	*Pembroke	Pembroke	Tuesday before full moon	"	" A. Forbes	" Albert Rockwell.
129	The Rising Sun...	Aurora	Friday on or after full moon	"	" R. W. Hillary..	" Wm R. White.
130	*Yamaska	Granby	First Wednesday	"	" J. H. Bartlett..	" H. D. Lundy.
131	*St. Lawrence	Southampton	Second Tuesday	"	" R. A. Drake	" A. A. Gilmour.
133	*Lebanon Forest...	Franceston...	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" W. Carrick....	" John Eastwood.
134	*Shawenegam	Three Rivers.	Second Wednesday	"	" W. T. Rickaby.	" M. Eacrett.
135	*St. Clair	Milton	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" Henry Watson.	" J. L. Clair.
136	Richardson	Stouffville ..	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" J. Bowman....	" R. Matheson.
137	*Pythagoras	Meaford	Friday on or after full moon	"	" A. Mitchell....	" Richard Knill.
138	*Aylmer	Aylmer, P. Q.	Second Tuesday	"	" C. H. Church..	" Joseph Rorke.
139	Lebanon	Oshawa	Second Tuesday	"	" J. P. Smith....	" C. W. Degan.
						" R. E. Lund.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES—[CONTINUED.]

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
140	*Malahide.....	Aylmer, Ont.	Wednesday on or after full moon, every month	W. Br. S. S. Clutton..	Br. Wm. Campbell.
141	*Tudor	Mitchell	Tuesday on or before full moon..	" E. Hornibrook.	" D. H. Stewart.
142	*Excelsior	Morrisburgh.	Tuesday on or before full moon.	" J. Chamberlain.	" W. E. Scott.
143	*Friendly Brothers.	Iroquois	Wednesday before full moon	" J. Stephenson .	"
144	*Tecumseh	Stratford	Thursday on or before full moon.	" Charles Kahn..	" Alex. Caven.
145	*J. B. Hall	Millbrook...	Second Thursday	" Henry Turner .	" J. H. Sootheran.
146	*Prince of Wales...	Newburgh ..	Wednesday before full moon	" Thomas Scott .	" Alfred Knight.
147	*Mississippi	Almonte	Friday on or before full moon...	" Peter McDougall	" J. Menzies.
148	*Civil Service	Seat of Gov't.	Second Tuesday	" E. P. Remon .	"
149	*Erie	Port Dover..	Monday on or before full moon..	" J. V. Hoover ..	" Rich'd Stephens.
150	*Hastings	Hastings	Thursday on or before full moon.	" J. C. Brown ...	" John Sharpe.
151	*The Grand River..	Berlin	Tuesday on or before full moon..	" Chas. Hendry ..	" J. L. Hoffman.
152	*Clarenceville.....	Clarenceville.	Third Thursday.....	" W. M. Macfie...	" C. N. Beerwort.
153	*Burns	Wyoming ...	Thursday on or before full moon.	" James McKay ..	" George Brown.
154	*Irving	Lucan	Thursday on or before full moon.	" E. Patching ..	" William Forte.
155	*Peterborough	Peterboro' ..	First Friday	" D. S. Eastwood	" J. I. Davidson.
156	*York	Eglinton	Thursday on or before full moon.	" J. Jackes	" M. Koefler.
157	*Simpson	Newboro' ..	Tuesday on or after full moon..	" Thos. Cann ..	" Andrew W. Bell.
158	*Alexandra.....	Oil Springs..	Thursday on or after full moon ..	" S. S. Maclelen .	" Henry Brown.
159	*Goodwood.....	Richmond, O.	First Tuesday	" Ed. Ridly.....	"
160	*Quebec Garrison .	Quebec	First Monday	" W. Wilkinson .	" Henry G. Mead.
161	*Percy	Warkworth..	Wednesday before full moon	" B. De Furlong.	" R. P. Hurlbut.
162	*Forest	Wrexeter ...	Friday on or before full moon	" R. Hodgson ...	" A. Worthington.
163	*Browne	WestFurnh'm	Friday on or before full moon	" G. H. Kemp...	" H. Bowker.
164	*Star in the East..	Wellington..	Tuesday on or before full moon..	" W. Cleminson .	" Edward Hill.
165	*Burlington	Wellingt'n Sq	Wednesday on or before full moon	" W. J. S. Kerr..	" Robert Halson.
166	*Wentworth.....	Stoney Creek	Monday on or before full moon..	" J. J. Brady....	" J. H. Carpenter.
167	*Royal Albert	Montreal	First Wednesday	" H. M Alexander	" C. Hutchison.
168	*Merritt.....	Welland	Monday on or before full moon..	" Moses Betts ...	" J. Vanderburgh.
169	*Macnab	Port Colborne	Tuesday on or before full moon..	" M. Richardson	" Paul Cramer.

171	*Prince of Wales...	Iona.....	Friday on or after full moon	"	" J. Edgcombe ..	" Daniel Silcox.
172	*Ayr	Ayr	Tuesday on or before full moon ..	"	" Alex. Ross.....	" J. Shoemaker.
173	*Victoria.....	Montreal.....	First Monday.....	"	" H. J. Gear	" John H. Menzies.
174	*Walsingham.....	Port Rowan.....	First Thursday.....	"	" C. Bennett	" William Ross ..
175	*Saint John's	Mansonville.....	Wednesday before full moon	"	" L. C. Moor	"
176	*Spartan	Sparta	Monday on or before full moon ..	"	" Alex. Fraser....	" F. A. Henderson.
177	*The Builders'	Ottawa	Second Friday.....	"	" T. W. Currier ..	" William Reas.
178	*Plattsville.....	Plattsville ..	Friday on or before full moon	"	" D. J. Philip	" R. J. Bouchier.
179	*Bothwell	Bothwell	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" H. F. Smith....	" Robert F. Hicks.
180	*Speed	Guelph	Second Tuesday.....	"	" Charles Sharpe ..	" Robert Cuthbert.
181	*Oriental	Port Burwell.....	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" S. Leybourne..	" George W. Hare.
182	*Tuscan	Levis	First Thursday	"	" W. Gibson	" Thomas Mackie.
183	*Prince Albert.....	Prince Albert.....	Friday on or before full moon	"	" J. Emaney	" W. J. Trounce.
184	*Old Light	Lucknow	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" R. L. Hunter....	" James Warren.
185	*Enniskillen	York	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" A. Thompson ..	" Robert H. Davis.
186	*Plantagenet	Plantagenet.....	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" Henry Smith	" Jas. VanBridger.
187	*Royal Canadian ..	Sweetsburgh.....	Second Wednesday	"	" E. Racicot	" Henry Rose.
188	*Ascot	Lennoxville.....	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" James Addie	" Francis Bennetts
189	*Filius Fidus	Adolphustown.....	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" J. Chamberlain ..	" J. E. Sills.
190	*Belmont	Belmont	Friday on or before full moon.....	"	" A. J. Thompson ..	" Jas. B. Campbell.
191	*Ashlar	Coaticook	First Wednesday.....	"	" George Wood	" Amos. K. Fox.
192	*Orillia	Orillia	Friday on or after full moon	"	" C. S. Elliot	" Rich'd J. Oliver.
193	*Scotland	Scotland	Monday on or before full moon ..	"	" Fred. Mudge	" J. D. Eddy.
194	*Petrolia	Petrolia	Second Wednesday	"	" John Tracy	" W. H. McGarvey.
195	*The Tuscan	London	First Monday.....	"	" Alfred G. Smith ..	" S. Blackburn.
196	*Madawaska	Arnprior	Thursday on or before full moon.	"	" Arch. Garrioch ..	" William Carss.
197	*Saugeen	Walkerton.....	Second Tuesday ..	"	" H. B. O'Connor ..	" H. P. O'Connor.
198	*White Oak	Oakville	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" G. K. Chisholm ..	" R. K. Chisholm.
199	*Frelighsb'burgh ..	Frelighsb'burgh.....	Monday on or before full moon..	"	" G. R. Marvin	" F. J. Parker.
200	*St. Alban's	Mount Forest.....	Friday on or before full moon	"	" J. A. Murray	" J. McFadyen.
201	*Leeds	Gananoque.....	Tuesday on or before full moon..	"	" W. Byers, Junr. ..	" W. B. Carroll.
202	*Mount Royal	Montreal.....	Second Tuesday	"	" Chas. Storer	" P. M. McTavish.
203	*Irvine	Elora.....	Friday on or before full moon	"	" John Smith	" David Foote.
204	*Doric	Danville	Wednesday on or before full moon	"	" Timothy Lect. ..	" A. H. Burbank.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES—[CONTINUED.]

NO.	LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	W. MASTER.	SECRETARY.
205	New Dominion	New Hamb'rg	Monday on or after full moon....	W. Br. G. B. Philip..	Br. Chas. Cameron.
206	North Gower	North Gower	First Monday	" D. P. Merritt ..	"
207	Lancaster	Lancaster ...	Second Wednesday	" A. M'Gregor ...	" J. W. McEdward.
208	Chateauguay	Huntingdon.	Second Tuesday	" W. C. Clarke ..	" S. McDonell.
209	Evergreen	Lanark	First Tuesday	" C. E. Field	" A. G. Dobbie.
210	Hawkesbury	Hawkesbury.	First Wednesday	" J. W. Crate	" Wm. E. Hayes.
211	Brome Lake	Knowlton...	First Wednesday	" H. D. Pickel...	" T. S. Knowlton.
212	Elysian	Garden Isl'd.	First Monday	" A. Malone	" R. H. Charles.
213	Dominion	Ridgeway ...	Wednesday on or before f. moon.	" A. Matteson ...	" Thomas Sproule.
214	Craig	Ailsa Craig..	Monday on or after full moon....	" T. Richardson .	" Wm. McIntosh.
215	Lake	Roblin's Mills	Monday on or after full moon....	" E. Roblin	" John N. Sprague.
216	Harris	Orangeville .	First Tuesday	" S. H. M'Kitrick	" R. J. McKitrick.
217	Frederick	Fred'ksburgh	Monday on or before full moon..	" Luke Cook....	"
218	Stevenson	Toronto	Second Monday.....	" W. C. Morrison	" Thomas Drewry.



In Memoriam.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BROTHER

WILLIAM FITCH, M.D.,

Past Master Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby.

Past District Deputy Grand Master
HAMILTON DISTRICT.

DIED

On the 17th March, 1869, aged 52 yrs.

AT REST.

AT REST.

NAMES.	No. LODGE.	DATE.
F. B. Perry.....	1 Prevost.....	May 23.....1869
Homer T. Lewis.....		February 23.....1869
George Casselman.....	2 Niagara.....	November 27.....1868
H. Smith.....		September 18.....1868
William G. Draper.....	3 St. John's.....	December 17.....1868
Robert Gaskin.....		February 23.....1869
Abraham Foster.....		May 30.....1869
Norman Booth.....		July 29.....1868
Charles H. Coles.....	5 Sussex.....	May 17.....1869
W. J. Bain.....		July 5.....1869
William Manne!.....	6 Barton.....	April 17.....1869
John C. Fraser.....		December 2.....1868
William Fitch.....	7 Union.....	March 17.....1869
H. A. Van Allan.....		July 30.....1868
C. H. Roberts.....	8 Nelson.....	October 23.....1868
James D. Tronsdale.....		November 19.....1868
William Edwin Fretz.....	9 Union.....	November 20.....1868
David Swinton.....		September 9.....1868
Charles W. Matheson.....	10 Norfolk.....	March 5.....1869
John W. Maybee.....		February 7.....1869
William Anderson.....	11 Moria.....	June 19.....1869
H. S. Stewart.....		August 26.....1868
H. H. Carpenter.....	12 Golden Rule.....	August 2.....1868
Alex. McArthur.....		October 6.....1868
George L. Hulme.....	15 St. George's.....	July 14.....1868
Josiah Blanchard.....	16 St. Andrew's.....	August.....1868
William A. Hume.....	18 Prince Edward's.....	December 11.....1868
John Blackburn.....		August.....1868
William B. Devenport.....	19 St. George's.....	July 25.....1869
William Murray.....	21 Zetland.....	December 8.....1868
Col. David Bridgford.....	22 King Solomon's.....	October 15.....1868
William G. Draper.....	23 Richmond.....	December 17.....1868
William Maxwell.....	25 Ionic.....	March 21.....1869
Alvin Hill.....	35 St. John's.....	March 6.....1869
Thomas Flett.....	37 King Hiram.....	May 25.....1869
Ed. Watkins Griffiths.....	40 St. John's.....	July 12.....1868
Henry Racey.....	42 St. George's.....	April 22.....1869
Lyman Moore.....	45 Brant.....	September 8.....1868
Norman N. Fritz.....	48 Madoc.....	November 20.....1868
David Bridgford.....		October 15.....1868
J. E. Davies.....	54 Vaughan.....	March 27.....1869
George Hyde.....		October.....1868
Alex. Wanless.....	56 Victoria.....	February 12.....1869
Mathew Aird.....		September 14.....1869
William Wade.....	58 Doric.....	March 13.....1869
William Maxwell.....	59 Corinthian.....	March 21.....1869
Conrad Nahrgang.....	62 St. Andrew's.....	August 17.....1868
William O'Hay.....	72 Alma.....	August 28.....1868
D. Connell.....		September 17.....1868
John Miller.....		November 24.....1868
William Dorgan.....		July 17.....1868
Robert Ross.....	76 Oxford.....	October 13.....1868
Geo. A. Keefer, Euclid Lodge, Brooklyn, N. Y.		.....1868
William Reid.....	83 Beaver.....	October 6.....1868
Thomas Todd.....	86 Wilson.....	May.....1869
Joseph W. Parker.....	87 Markham Union.....	May 22.....1869
William Doherty.....	88 St. George's.....	December 22.....1868
George Smith.....	92 Catarqui.....	July 4.....1868
John Hemphill.....	93 Northern Light.....	October 3.....1868
George Burton.....	94 St. Mark's.....	June 10.....1869
William Graham.....	96 Corinthian.....	April 24.....1869
	98 True Blue.....	.....1869



NAMES.	No. LODGE.	DATE.
James Chantler	99 Tuscan	June 30.....1868
Robert C. Scott	101 Corinthian .....	.....1868
Barnabas Fralic	105 St. Mark's	March 11.....1869
James Wetmore	106 Burford	June 11.....1869
James W. Scott	103 Blenheim	January 9.....1869
Henry Pooley	110 Central	September 28.....1868
Alfred Torr		April 27.....1869
W. C. Treleaven	112 Maitland	July 16.....1868
George Rumball		March 16.....1869
Geo. Washington Park ..	113 Wilson .....	.....1868
Thomas Marshall	119 Maple Leaf	April 23.....1869
John M'Guiniss		March 22.....1869
David Evans	122 Renfrew	July 27.....1868
Arch. Patterson		October 8.....1868
John W. Maybee	123 The Belleville ..	February 7.....1868
John Smith Clerk	124 Montreal Kilw'ng ..	November 6.....1868
Thos. M'Williams .....		.....1868
John M'Donnell	125 Cornwall	July.....1868
John R. Smith	126 Golden Rule	April 17.....1869
John Rome		April 27.....1869
J. H. Savage	130 Yamaska	March 10.....1869
Gilbert F. Bastedo	135 St. Clair	August 3.....1868
W. U. Skeene	136 Richardson	November 24.....1868
John Likins		May 31.....1869
Thomas T. Symes	137 Pythagoras	May 9.....1869
Robert Conroy	138 Aylmer	April 5.....1868
William C. Clarke		February 17.....1869
Joseph Whyte	139 Lebanon	November 25.....1868
Isaac Chambers	140 Malahide	November 7.....1868
John Kays	143 Friendly Brothers ..	July 10.....1868
Walter L. Thomas	144 Tecumseh	September 4.....1868
Thos. Raymond Rowan ..	145 J. B. Hall	January 26.....1869
John D. Dewar	152 Clarenceville	March.....1868
John Torney	159 Goodwood	February 20.....1869
James Woolfe	160 Quebec Garrison ..	March 14.....1869
William Short	163 Browne	March.....1869
Charles O. Smith	167 Royal Albert	December 17.....1868
William Midford	177 The Builders ..	November 24.....1868
Asael Roberts	180 Speed	October 19.....1868
Joshua J. Spivey, Lodge of Friendship, No. 750, England.		May 16.....1869
George Ault, (drowned) ..	181 Oriental	
James Hunt	182 Tuscan	January 29.....1869
John M'Quoid	184 Old Light	June 5.....1869
William A. Clarke	188 Ascot	August 19.....1868
Robert Meikle	196 Madawaska	February 25.....1869

SUSPENSIONS.—Unmasonic Conduct.

- No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby.*
William K. Sumner.
- No. 15. *St. George's Lodge, St. Catharines.*
Charles P. Camp.
- No. 19. *St. George's Lodge, Montreal.*
John Paxton.
- No. 21. *Zeiland Lodge, Montreal.*
John McLean.
- No. 46. *Wellington Lodge, Chatham.*
Jas. D. Dunham.
- No. 47. *Great Western Lodge, Windsor.*
J. J. Maurer.
- No. 50. *Consecon Lodge, Consecon.*
William D. Whittier, John Byres.
- No. 53. *Shefford Lodge, Waterloo.*
Edmund Longley, jr.
- No. 79. *Simcoe Lodge, Bradford.*
Lewis Clement.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley.*
Samuel Kerr.
- No. 99. *Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket.*
William Trent.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines.*
Bernard F. Bull.
- No. 122. *Renfrew Lodge, Renfrew.*
John Parris.
- No. 124. *Montreal Kilwinning, Montreal.*
H. V. T. Seymour.
- No. 141. *Tudor Lodge, Mitchell.*
Joseph Hugill, Robert Park.
- No. 149. *Erie Lodge, Port Dover.*
N. O. Walker.
- No. 153. *Burns' Lodge, Wyoming.*
William Given.
- No. 155. *Peterborough Lodge, Peterborough.*
D. R. Castiday.
- No. 192. *Orillia Lodge, Orillia.*
William Deacon.
- No. 200. *St Alban's Lodge, Mount Forest.*
J. M. Campbell.

SUSPENSIONS.—Non-Payment of Dues.

- No. — *Antiquity Lodge, Montreal.*
F. Lafond, A. M'Conochy, S. B. Naigle, W. Fitzgerald,
J. Sax.
- No. 3. *St. John's Lodge, Kingston.*
Duncan M'Millan, William Shapcott.
- No. 6. *Barton Lodge, Hamilton.*
John Harte, Charles Cumbers, J. C. M'Lachlin.
- No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby.*
John B. Wrong.
- No. 10. *Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe.*
Frederick Vanderlip, John Shepherd, Parvin R. Langs,
D. M. Walker.
- No. 16. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto.*
John Livingston, Thomas Ridout, Peter Cameron.
- No. 20. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
T. H. Bollen.
- No. 21. *Zetland Lodge, Montreal.*
J. M'Donald, Morris Zacharias, James Watson.
- No. 22. *King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto.*
Alfred Berry, Arthur Draper, John Davey, Chas. F. Smith,
Wm. Turner, Wm. Waggoner, Wm. Gale.
- No. 26. *Ontario Lodge, Port Hope.*
James Simpson, James M'Henry.
- No. 29. *United Lodge, Brighton.*
James F. Rolls.
- No. 30. *Composite Lodge, Whitby.*
James Miller, James Wallace, W. H. Billing.
- No. 32. *Amity Lodge, Dunnville.*
John Swartz, Francis Rose.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll.*
Angus F. M'Donald.
- No. 42. } *St. George's Lodge, London.*
C. C. Banks.
- No. 43. *King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock.*
George Montgomery, James White, David N. Perry, John
Mitchell, Geo. O. Brimacombe, Hugh Webster, Geo. White,
Henry Parker, Jas. Kintrea, John Chalmers, A. Fletcher,
Isaac Wallace, Alex. M'Cleneghan, J. H. Bryant.
- No. 46. *Wellington Lodge, Chatham.*
Robt. M'Corquodale.

- No. 49. *Harington Lodge, Quebec.*
Levi Maurice, Edward M. Melhot, Thos. Sheridan.
- No. 53. *Shefford Lodge, Waterloo.*
V. Nutting, H. D. Jordan, Isaac Foss, E. W. Moffatt.
- No. 57. *Harmony Lodge, Binbrook.*
Robert Dalglish, George Bayley, William Walker,
William Tossell.
- No. 58. *Doric Lodge, Ottawa.*
Robert P. Davies, James Starke.
- No. 59. *Corinthian Lodge, Ottawa.*
W. R. Gallwey.
- No. 67. *St. Frances' Lodge, Richmond.*
George F. Burnett.
- No. 68. *St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll.*
John Fraser, Jas. Carlis, Thomson M'Leary, J. Lawrance,
Christopher Rutledge, John Bowes.
- No. 75. *St. John's Lodge, Toronto.*
John Dixon, Alex. Dixon, J. J. Haslett, James Hardy,
Wm. M'Cune, W. E. Young.
- No. 78. *King Hiram Lodge, Tilsonburgh.*
Thos. B. Brown, Andrew Hunter, Jas. M'Roberts.
- No. 81. *St. John's Lodge, Mt. Brydges.*
Wm. Whittaker, John Campbell, Stephen D. Lacy, Stephen
W. Wild, Jas. Steward, Jas. M'Arthur, Ralph Middlemess,
John Auld, H. H. White, Robert Pugolas, Wm. M'Kellar,
John Ferguson, Charles Tuck.
- No. 86. *Wilson Lodge, Toronto.*
Thos. B. Dack, H. S. Nichol, William L. Grout.
- No. 91. *Colborne Lodge, Colborne.*
Joseph S. Scott, Joseph Doolittle.
- No. 93. *Northern Light Lodge, Kincardine.*
Soloman Secord, William M'Vicar, William A. Young,
John Strickland.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley.*
John Batt, James Edgcombe, Arthur Tomlinson,
John Milligan.
- No. 95. *Ridout Lodge, Otterville.*
William A. M'Lim.
- No. 99. *Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket.*
John Nash, William Bishop, Nelson Botsford.
- No. 101. *Corinthian Lodge, Peterboro'.*
James Hibkin, Alex. Graham, Daniel M'Donald.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines.*
Joseph Watson, William Morrison.

- No. 104. *St. John's Lodge, Norwichville.*
Josiah Campbell, Alfred Gilham.
- No. 107. *St. Paul's Lodge, Lambeth.*
Alex. Ferguson, Jas. Scott, Jas. Crinklaw, Chas. L. Curtice,
Enoc Sutton.
- No. 108. *Blenheim Lodge, Drumbo.*
James Brundle.
- No. 109. *Albion Lodge, Harrowsmith.*
James Spike.
- No. 110. *Central Lodge, Prescott.*
George Twomley, Thomas Elliott, Nathan Miser,
J. D. Roblin.
- No. 112. *Maitland Lodge, Goderich.*
Allan M'Donald.
- No. 120. *Warren Lodge, Fingal.*
W. F. Boughor.
- No. 124. *Montreal Kilwin'ng Lodge, Montreal.*
Fred. A. Lett, John Beerworth, Theo. Fahrland, P. Pursell,
Robt. Moore, John Porter, Hugh M'Cormack, Jas. Wright,
G. B. Duncan, A. Chisholm, C. B. Dewitt, A. Johnson.
- No. 129. *The Rising Sun Lodge, Aurora.*
S. E. Harne, John W. Clift, Ashton J. Fletcher, Emory O.
Crawford, J. Henry, J. C. Fitzgerald,
- No. 131. *St. Lawrence Lodge, Southampton.*
W. S. Scott.
- No. 134. *Shawenegam Lodge, Three Rivers.*
Hugh Kerr, A. M. Hart, John Clark,
- No. 135. *St. Clair Lodge, Milton.*
H. R. Britton, D. M'Quarrie, G. Boyce,
- No. 140. *Malakide Lodge, Aylmer, Ont.*
Ezra Foote, John H. Cronk, H. Wood, W. H. Ousterhout.
- No. 141. *Tudor Lodge, Mitchell.*
Henry Robinson.
- No. 144. *Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford.*
Edward Madden.
- No. 149. *Erie Lodge, Port Dover.*
Robert Wallbrook, Francis Pouitt, John Irwin, J. Clark,
William Inman.
- No. 151. *The Grand River Lodge, Berlin.*
Albert Randall.
- No. 163. *Browne Lodge, West Farnham.*
E. O. Ruseau, G. N. Hawk, E. W. H. Higgins, E. A. Mason,
C. H. Smith, E. Clow, J. W. Knight, J. M'Cray.

- No. 164. *Star in the East Lodge, Wellington.*
John Cumming.
- No 172. *Ayr Lodge, Ayr.*
Alexander W. Campbell.
- No. 173. *Victoria Lodge, Montreal.*
Charles Perkins, Robert Morrison.
- No. 177. *The Builders' Lodge, Ottawa.*
Ludger Blouchett.
- No. 178. *Plattsville Lodge, Plattsville.*
John T. Fairgrieve, James W. Brundle.
- No. 190. *Belmont Lodge, Belmont.*
Lewis Olmstead.

RESTORATIONS.

- No. — *Antiquity Lodge, Montreal.*
C. E. C. King.
- No 1. *Prevost Lodge, Dunham.*
John Odell.
- No 2. *Niagara Lodge, Niagara.*
Gage I. Miller.
- No. 3. *St. John's Lodge, Kingston.*
John S. Shearer, John Duff.
- No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby.*
George Book.
- No. 10. *Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe.*
William T. Wyatt.
- No. 18. *Prince Edward's Lodge, Picton*
Philip Clapp.
- No. 20. *St. John's Lodge, London.*
Mark Burgess.
- No. 22. *King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto.*
George Wright.
- No. 30. *Composite Lodge, Whitby.*
George Y. Smith.
- No. 36. *Welland Lodge, Fonthill.*
John S. Munroe.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll.*
Theophilus Pool, Jas. Keys, G. A. Spurr, Alex. McBen.

- No. 43. *King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock.*
John Mitchell.
- No. 50. *Consecon Lodge, Consecon.*
Ambrose Wood, John Young.
- No. 54. *Vaughan Lodge, Maple.*
Nicholas Shaver.
- No. 58. *Doric Lodge, Ottawa.*
John H. Barber, Edw'd Bearman, Wm. E. Lees, Jas. Clark.
- No. 66. *Durham Lodge, Newcastle.*
B. L. Bradley.
- No. 71. *Victoria Lodge, Sherbrooke.*
J. H. Mitchel.
- No. 73. *St. James' Lodge, St. Mary's.*
Joseph McDougall.
- No. 77. *Faithful Brethren Lodge, Lindsay.*
G. H. G. McVity.
- No. 78. *King Hiram Lodge, Tilsonburgh.*
James McRoberts, Matthew Burn.
- No. 83. *Beaver Lodge, Strathroy.*
Jas. Zimmerman.
- No. 92. *Cataraqui Lodge, Kingston.*
Wm. Somerville.
- No. 94. *St. Mark's Lodge, Port Stanley.*
Jas. Durdle.
- No. 95. *Ridout Lodge, Otterville.*
Wm. Narroway.
- No. 105. *St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville.*
Theodore W. Woodruff.
- No. 116. *Cassia Lodge, Widder.*
Smith Mott.
- No. 117. *Stanbridge Lodge, Stanbridge.*
H. N. Whitman.
- No. 121. *Doric Lodge, Brantford.*
John Orr.
- No. 131. *St. Lawrence Lodge, Southampton.*
Jas. Adair, D. R. J. Campbell.
- No. 153. *Burns' Lodge, Wyoming.*
Levi B. Smith, M. C. Roblin, Robert Terryberry.
- No. 163. *Browne Lodge, West Farnham.*
E. W. H. Higgins.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1869-70.

M.W. Bro.	A. A. Stevenson,	Montreal,	Grand Master.
R. " "	James Seymour,	St. Catharines,	Deputy Grand Master.
" " "	John E. Brooke,	Chatham,	D.D.G.M. London District.
" " "	David Curtis,	Brantford,	" Wilson "
" " "	Thomas Matheson,	Mitchell,	" Huron "
" " "	Otto Klotz,	Preston,	" Wellington "
" " "	Isaac P. Willson,	Welland,	" Hamilton "
" " "	James K. Kerr,	Toronto,	" Toronto "
" " "	William McCabe,	Oshawa,	" Ontario "
" " "	H. W. Delany,	Trenton,	" Prince Edw'd "
" " "	Thomas Wilkinson,	Brockville	" St. Lawrence "
" " "	J. J. Gemmill,	Ottawa,	" Ottawa "
" " "	M. Gutman,	Montreal,	" Montreal "
" " "	Isaac H. Stearns,	Lennoxville,	" St. Francis "
" " "	H. L. Robinson,	Waterloo,	" Bedford "
" " "	Alexander Walker,	Quebec,	" Quebec "
" " "	Peter J. Brown,	Ingersoll,	Grand Senior Warden.
" " "	Daniel Thomas,	Sherbrooke,	" Junior Warden.
" " "	Rev. H. Montgomery,	Philipsburg,	" Chaplain.
" " "	Henry Groff,	Simcoe,	" Treasurer.
" " "	Silas B. Fairbanks,	Oshawa,	" Registrar.
" " "	Thomas Bird Harris,	Hamilton,	" Secretary.
V.W. Bro.	R. P. Stephens,	Toronto,	" Senior Deacon.
" " "	I. B. Futvoye,	St Johns' P. Q.	" Junior Deacon.
" " "	Walter Chatfield,	St. Catharines,	" Supt. of Works.
" " "	Charles Sharpe,	Guelph,	" Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " "	W. T. Munday,	Hamilton,	Asst. " Secretary.
" " "	Thomas Munro,	Ottawa,	Asst. " Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " "	Robert Lewis,	London,	" Sword Bearer.
" " "	A. E. Fife,	Brighton,	" Organist.
" " "	William Nivin,	Montreal,	Asst " Organist.
" " "	L. W. Decker,	Phillipsburgh,	" Pursuivant.
" " "	Thomas Willings,		" Tyler.
" " "	Moses Betts,	Welland, Toronto,	} Grand Stewards.
" " "	C. S. Rowe,	Clarenceville,	
" " "	D. McLellan,	Toronto,	
" " "	Robt. Peel McGinnis,	St. Johns',	
" " "	John Taylor,	Brantford,	
" " "	C. Boright,	Sweetsburgh,	
" " "	C. R. Ford,	Colborne,	
" " "	R. W. Laing,	Waterloo,	
" " "	D. McMurchy,	Markham,	
" " "	Abraham Diamond,	Belleville,	
" " "	W. T. Rickaby,	Three Rivers,	
" " "	James Canfield,	Ingersoll,	

Representatives from the Grand Lodge of Canada.

R. W. Bro.	The Right Hon. Lord DeTably,	in the U.G.L. of England.
" " "	James Vokes Mackey,	" " Ireland.
" " "	Lindsay Mackersy,	" " Scotland.
" " "	_____	" " Vermont.
" " "	William Pitt Preble,	" " Maine.
" " "	Henry W. Turner,	" " New York.
" " "	Horner A. Johnson,	" " Illinois.
" " "	Jacinto DeCastro,	" " St. Domingo.
" " "	Andrew Kerr MacKinley,	" " Nova Scotia.
" " "	E. T. Carr,	" " Kansas.
Ill. Bro.	J. M. C. Obed,	in the Grand Orient Cuba.
Ill. " "	Dr. Francesco De Paula Romas,	" " Brazil.
Ill. " "	J. M. Samper Angiano,	" " New Grenada.
Ill. " "	Antonio M. Mollejas,	" " Venezuela.
Ill. " "	Joas Caetano D'Almeida,	" " Portugal.
Ill. " "	Luis Goapil, 33°	" " Mexico.
Ill. " "	Francesco DeLuca,	" " Italy.
Ill. " "	A. M. Medina,	" " Chili.
Ill. " "	Laurentino Ximenez, 33°	" " Uruguay.
R. W. Bro.	George S. Blackie, 32° M. D.,	Grand Lodge Tennessee.
" " "	John V. Ellis,	" " N. Brunswick
" " "	J. C. Batchelor, M. D.,	" " Louisiana.
" " "	Samuel C. Perkins,	" " Pennsylvania.

Representatives in the Grand Lodge of Canada.

R. W. Bro.	Sir John A. Macdonald, K.C.B.,	from the G.L. of England.
" " "	Kivas Tully,	" " Ireland.
" " "	Thomas Drummond,	" " Scotland.
M. " "	W. Mercer Wilson,	" " Illinois.
" " "	A. Bernard,	" " Vermont.
R. " "	Thomas B. Harris, 33°	" " Kansas.
" " "	John H. Graham,	" " Maine.
" " "	James A. Henderson,	" " New York.
M. " "	Thomas Douglas Harington, 33°	" " Nova Scotia.
" " "	Wm. Mercer Wilson,	from the Grand Orient St. Domingo.
" " "	Wm. Mercer Wilson,	" " Cuba.
R. " "	Thomas Bird Harris, 33°	" " Portugal.
" " "	A. A. Stevenson, 32°	" " Brazil.
" " "	Henry Macpherson,	" " Uruguay.
M. " "	A. Bernard,	" " New Grenada.
" " "	W. B. Simpson,	" " Italy.
R. " "	Rev. Vincent Clementi,	" " Chili.
" " "	S. B. Harman,	Grand Lodge Texas.
" " "	Thomas B. Harris, 33°	" " Tennessee.
M. " "	T. Douglas Harington, 33°	" " Louisiana.
" " "	T. Douglas Harington, 33°	" " Pennsylvania.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, 1869-70.

PRESIDENT :

R. W. Bro. James Seymour, Deputy Grand Master, St. Catharines, Ont.

VICE-PRESIDENT :

M.W. Bro. A. Bernard, P. G. M., Montreal, Q.

OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE.—[By virtue of office.]

M.W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master, Montreal, Q.
 R. " " James Seymour, Deputy Grand Master, St. Catharines, Ont.
 " " " Peter J. Brown, Grand Senior Warden, Ingersoll, Ont.
 " " " Daniel Thomas, Grand Junior Warden, Sherbrooke, Q.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.—[By virtue of office.]

R. W. Bro. John E. Brooke,	Chatham, Ontario.
" " " David Curtis,	Brantford, "
" " " Thomas Matheson,	Mitchell, "
" " " Otto Klotz,	Preston, "
" " " Isaac P. Willson,	Welland, "
" " " James K. Kerr,	Toronto, "
" " " William McCabe,	Oshawa, "
" " " H. W. Delany,	Trenton, "
" " " Thomas Wilkinson,	Brockville, "
" " " John J. Gemmill,	Ottawa, "
" " " M. Gutman,	Montreal, Quebec.
" " " Isaac H. Stearns,	Lennoxville, "
" " " H. L. Robinson,	Waterloo, "
" " " Alexander Walker,	Quebec, "

ELECTED BY GRAND LODGE :

M.W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.,	Kingston, Ontario.
" " " T. Douglas Harington, P. G. M.,	Ottawa, "
V. " " James Bain, P. G. S. B.,	Toronto, "
R. " " J. Milne (one year), P. D. D. G. M.,	Bowmanville, "
" " " J. H. Graham (one year), P. D. D. G. M.,	Richmond, Quebec.
" " " A. DeGrassi, P. D. D. G. M.,	Toronto, Ontario.
M. " " A. Bernard, P. G. M.,	Montreal, Quebec.
R. " " W. H. Weller, P. D. D. G. M.,	Cobourg, Ontario.
V. " " Henry Robertson, P. G. Steward,	Collingwood, "
R. " " John Kerr, P. G. S. W.,	Toronto, "

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND MASTER :

R. W. Bro. Henry Macpherson, P. G. S. W.,	Owen Sound, Ontario.
V. " " Thomas White, P. G. Asst. O.,	Hamilton, "
" " " John Clarke, P. G. S. D.,	Simcoe, "
" " " Hon. Thomas Wood, P. M.,	Dunham, Quebec.
R. " " Æ. Irving (one year), P. D. D. G. M.,	Hamilton, Ontario.
V. " " B. E. Charlton, P. G. D. of C.,	Hamilton, "
" " " Geo. Billington, P. G. Steward,	Strathroy, "
" " " Allan McLean, P. G. Steward,	Ingersoll, "
R. " " Geo. H. Borlase, P. D. G. M.,	Sherbrooke, Quebec.
" " " Frank Edgar, P. M.,	Montreal, "

LIST OF GRAND LODGES

IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA, WITH THE NAMES AND
RESIDENCES OF THE GRAND SECRETARIES

England	John Hervey	London.
Ireland	John E. Hyndman	Dublin.
Scotland	Wm. A. Lawrie	Edinburgh.
Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
Arkansas	W. D. Blocher	Little Rock.
California	Alexander G. Abell	San Francisco.
Colorado	Edward C. Parmelee	Georgetown.
Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
Delaware	John P. Allmond	Wilmington.
District of Columbia	Noble D. Larner	Washington.
Florida	Hugh A. Corley	Tallahessee.
Georgia	Simri Rose	Macon.
Idaho Territory	P. E. Edmondson	Idaho City.
Illinois	Orlin H. Miner	Springfield.
Indiana	Jno M. Bramwell	Indianapolis.
Iowa	Theo. S. Parvin	Iowa City.
Kansas	E. T. Carr	Leavenworth.
Kentucky	J. M. S. McCorkle	Louisville.
Louisiana	J. C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
Maine	Ira Berry	Portland
Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	Baltimore.
Massachusetts	Solon Thornton	Boston.
Michigan	James Fenton	Detroit.
Minnesota	Wm. S. Combs	St. Paul.
Mississippi	T. L. Power	Jackson.
Missouri	Geo. F. Gouley	St. Louis.
Montana	Wilbur F. Sanders	Virginia City.
Nebraska	J. N. Wise	Plattsmouth.
Nevada	Wm. A. M. Van Bokkelen	Virginia.
New Brunswick	W. F. Bunting	St John.
New Jersey	Joseph H. Hough	Trenton.
New Hampshire	Horace Chase	Hopkington.
New York	James. M. Austin	New York.
North Carolina	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Nova Scotia	C. J. Macdonald	Halifax.
Ohio	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati.
Oregon	J. E. Hurford	Oregon City.
Pennsylvania	John Thompson	Philadelphia.
Rhode Island	C. D. Greene	Providence.
South Carolina	R. S. Bruns	Charleston.
Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
Texas	Geo. W. Bringhurst	Houston.
Virginia	John Dove	Richmond.
Vermont	Henry Clark	Burlington.
Wisconsin	W. T. Palmer	Milwaukee.
Washington Territory	Thomas M. Reed	Olympia.
West Virginia	Thomas H. Logan	Wheeling.

SYNOPSIS OF THE RETURNS OF LODGES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 24th JUNE, 1869.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdra's.	Died.	Susp.N.P.D	Susp.U.M.C	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
—Antiquity Lodge	Montreal	6	6	3	1	11	..	6	..	..	1	44
1 Prevost	Dunham	2	3	4	1	12	1	..	..	2	1	55
2 Niagara	Niagara	6	5	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	42
3 St. John's	Kingston	16	18	15	6	21	4	2	..	..	2	126
4 Dorchester	St. John's	4	4	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
5 Sussex	Brockville	2	2	3	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	61
6 Barton	Hamilton	13	13	14	..	3	1	3	..	..	..	101
7 Union	Grimsby	4	3	3	1	4	1	1	1	..	1	34
8 Nelson	Philipsburgh	3	3	2	..	5	2	..	..	..	..	42
9 Union	Napanec	18	13	7	4	3	2	..	..	..	..	78
10 Norfolk	Simcoe	13	14	19	2	3	2	4	..	..	1	66
11 Moria	Belleville	5	5	3	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	53
12 Golden Rule	Stanstead	10	9	11	..	5	2	..	..	..	..	127
14 True Briton's	Perth .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
15 St. George's	St. Catharines	12	8	1	2	5	1	..	1	..	..	73
16 St. Andrew's	Toronto	10	8	12	2	14	1	3	..	1	..	89
17 St. John's	Cobourg .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
18 Prince Edward's	Pictou	7	7	6	1	3	2	..	..	..	1	81
19 St. George's	Montreal	4	3	3	2	9	1	..	1	..	..	65
20 St. John's	London	6	8	7	1	6	..	..	..	..	1	59
21 Zetland	Montreal	19	18	17	2	3	..	3	1	..	..	61
22 King Solomon's	London	22	16	18	2	15	1	7	..	..	1	135
23 Richmond	Richmond Hill	4	4	5	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	80
25 Ionic	Toronto	5	2	3	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	63
26 Ontario	Port Hope	3	1	..	2	3	..	2	..	..	..	35
27 Strict Observance	Hamilton	13	14	7	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	69
28 Mount Zion	Kemptville	2	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	39
29 United	Brighton	7	5	6	1	5	..	1	..	..	..	31
30 Composite	Whitby	7	11	9	3	4	..	3	..	..	1	48
31 Jerusalem	Bowmanville	9	7	7	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	35
32 Amity	Dunnville	3	4	4	1	4	..	2	..	..	..	74
34 Thistle	Amherstburgh .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
35 St. John's	Cayuga	2	2	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	27
36 Welland	Fonthill	5	4	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	42
37 King Hiram	Ingersoll	9	9	8	4	3	1	1	..	..	4	56
38 Trent	Trenton	7	6	4	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	33
39 Mount Zion	Brooklin .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
40 St. John's	Hamilton	5	5	1	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	73
41 St. George's	Kingsville	11	8	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
42 St. George's	London	5	5	5	1	6	1	..	..	..	..	50
43 King Solomon's	Woodstock	12	12	11	1	5	..	14	..	..	1	56
44 St. Thomas	St. Thomas	1	3	3	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	40
45 Brant	Brantford	5	5	5	4	8	..	..	..	..	..	75
46 Wellington	Chatham	14	14	14	2	7	..	1	1	..	..	75
47 Great Western	Windsor	3	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
48 Madoc	Madoc	7	7	5	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	39
49 Harington	Quebec	6	2	3	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	43
50 Consecon	Consecon	4	4	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	37
51 Corinthian	Grahamville .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	10
53 Shefford	Waterloo	3	3	3	1	2	..	4	..	..	..	54
54 Vaughan	Maple	5	2	3	..	3	2	..	..	..	1	47
55 Mirickville	Mirickville .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
56 Victoria	Sarnia	6	9	9	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	81
57 Harmony	Binbrook	2	1	2	..	2	1	4	..	..	..	19
58 Doric	Ottawa	13	9	4	2	4	1	2	..	..	4	89
59 Corinthian	Ottawa	4	5	2	1	8	1	1	..	..	..	52

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges for the Year ending 24th June, 1869.—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Died.	Susp. N.P.D.	Susp. U.M.C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
60 Hoyle	LaColle .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
61 Acacia	Hamilton	14	21	19	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	72
62 St. Andrew's	Caledonia .....	..	1	3	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	67
64 Kilwinning	London	6	6	6	4	12	..	..	..	..	..	60
66 Durham	Newcastle	2	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	33
67 St. Francis	Richmond	5	..	..	..	12	..	1	..	..	..	35
68 St. John's	Ingersoll	14	11	10	4	2	..	6	..	..	..	53
69 Stirling	Stirling	15	16	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
71 Victoria	Sherbrooke	3	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	63
72 Alma	Galt	17	17	14	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	71
73 St. James	St. Mary's	9	5	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	49
74 St. James	Maitland	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	32
75 St. John's	Toronto	15	15	14	11	11	..	6	..	..	..	123
76 Oxford	Woodstock	6	6	5	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	39
77 Faithful Brethren	Lindsay	11	11	9	5	2	..	..	..	..	1	25
78 King Hiram	Tilsonburgh	4	4	3	1	2	..	3	..	..	2	43
79 Simcoe	Bradford	4	4	4	1	8	..	..	1	..	..	13
80 Albion	Newbury	8	9	9	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	39
81 St. John's	Mt. Brydges	4	6	8	1	2	..	13	..	..	1	40
82 St. John's	Paris	10	11	9	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	62
83 Beaver	Strathroy	2	3	3	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	51
84 Clinton	Clinton .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
85 Rising Sun	Farmersville .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
86 Wilson	Toronto	22	23	25	10	5	1	3	..	..	..	118
87 Markham Union	Markham	5	9	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	39
88 St. George's	Owen Sound	4	5	5	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	49
90 Manito	Collingwood	7	10	8	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	65
91 Colborne	Colborne	11	11	10	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	44
92 Cataraqui	Kingston	24	22	22	2	3	1	..	..	..	1	105
93 Northern Light	Kincardine	2	2	1	1	3	1	4	..	..	..	35
94 St. Mark's	Port Stanley	5	4	3	1	3	1	5	1	..	1	31
95 Ridout	Otterville	1	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	26
96 Corinthian	Barrie	9	7	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	42
97 Sharon	Sharon	4	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
98 True Blue	Albion	2	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	12
99 Tuscan	Newmarket	4	3	3	..	1	1	3	1	..	..	34
100 Valley	Dundas	3	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
101 Corinthian	Peterboro'	7	6	2	1	5	1	3	..	..	..	32
103 Maple Leaf	St. Catharines	16	12	16	3	6	..	2	..	..	..	103
104 St. John's	Norwichville	2	2	2	1	6	..	2	..	..	..	29
105 St. Mark's	Drummondville	8	11	11	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	60
106 Burford	Burford	5	6	7	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	21
107 St. Paul's	Lambeth	1	2	1	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	26
108 Blenheim	Drumbo	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	25
109 Albion	Harrowsmith	7	6	4	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	27
110 Central	Prescott	5	6	4	2	2	2	4	..	..	..	70
112 Maitland	Goderich	9	10	11	3	5	2	1	..	..	..	58
113 Wilson	Waterford	10	10	10	3	6	2	1	..	..	..	48
114 Hope	Port Hope	19	17	12	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
115 Ivy	Smithville .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
116 Cassia	Widder	4	3	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	42
117 Stanbridge	Stanbridge	2	2	2	..	9	..	..	..	..	1	59
118 Union	Lloydtown .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
119 Maple Leaf	Bath	4	3	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	23
120 Warren	Fingal	3	2	4	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	28
121 Doric	Brantford	4	3	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	70
122 Renfrew	Renfrew	1	1	1	..	3	2	..	1	..	..	14
123 The Belleville	Belleville	11	10	9	9	3	1	..	..	..	..	69
124 Montreal Kilwin'ng	Montreal	20	14	11	..	6	2	12	1	..	..	152
125 Cornwall	Cornwall .....	..	6	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	26
126 Golden Rule	Campbellsford	2	1	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	33
127 Franck	Frankford	12	12	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
128 Pembroke	Pembroke .....	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	14
129 The Rising Sun	Aurora	5	6	6	1	7	..	10	..	..	4	26
130 Yamaska	Granby	6	6	6	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	23

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges for the Year ending 24th June, 1869.—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdra's.	Died.	Susp. N.P.D.	Susp. U.M.C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
131 St. Lawrence	Southampton	1	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	22
133 Lebanon Forest	Franceston	2	2	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	55
134 Shawenegam	Three Rivers	8	6	9	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	36
135 St. Clair	Milton	6	6	6	2	2	1	2	..	..	..	49
136 Richardson	Stonerville	6	4	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	37
137 Pythagoras	Meaford	6	6	4	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	33
138 Aylmer	Aylmer, P. Q.	1	1	..	..	6	2	..	..	..	..	31
139 Lebanon	Oshawa	11	9	2	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	63
140 Malahide	Aylmer, Ont.	3	2	3	..	2	1	4	..	..	1	39
141 Tudor	Mitchell	2	2	1	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	31
142 Excelsior	Morrisburgh	3	5	8	4	3	..	..	..	..	..	64
143 Friendly Brothers	Iroquois	6	6	5	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	42
144 Teemseh	Stratford	12	7	5	3	5	1	2	..	..	..	54
145 J. B. Hall	Millbrook	7	7	11	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	27
146 Prince of Wales	Newburgh .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
147 Mississippi	Almonte	8	8	7	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	24
148 Civil Service	Ottawa	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	42
149 Erie	Port Dover	9	6	8	1	3	..	5	1	..	..	39
150 Hastings	Hastings	5	4	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	28
151 The Grand River	Berlin	11	8	7	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	60
152 Clarenceville	Clarenceville	3	3	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	17
153 Burns	Wyoming	4	5	5	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	28
154 Irving	Lucan .....	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	28
155 Peterborough	Peteboro'	5	6	7	2	3	..	1	..	..	..	40
156 York	Eglinton	8	7	7	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	41
157 Simpson	Newboro'	9	11	10	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	33
158 Alexan dra	Oil Springs	5	5	3	1	8	..	..	..	..	..	33
159 Goodwood	Richmond, Ont. ....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	20
160 Quebec Garrison	Quebec	8	7	8	17	22	1	..	..	..	..	38
161 Percy	Warkworth	6	7	6	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	26
162 Forest	Wroxeter	4	2	4	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	29
163 Browne	West Farnham	10	8	5	1	4	1	8	..	..	1	30
164 Star in the East	Wellington	12	12	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	36
165 Burlington	Wellington Square	2	2	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	26
166 Wentworth	Stoney Creek .....	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	26
167 Royal Albert	Montreal	3	3	3	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	57
168 Merritt	Welland	6	6	4	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	34
169 Macnab	Port Colborne	6	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
170 Britannia	Seaforth	4	4	6	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	35
171 Prince of Wales	Iona .....	..	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	43
172 Ayr	Ayr	3	2	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	34
173 Victoria	Montreal	3	2	2	1	6	..	2	..	..	..	47
174 Walsingham	Port Rowan	6	6	7	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
175 St. John's	Mansonville	9	13	12	2	12	..	..	..	..	..	51
176 Spartan	Sparta	3	3	3	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	24
177 The Builders	Ottawa	6	11	12	3	6	1	1	..	..	..	55
178 Plattsville	Plattsville	9	8	9	1	5	..	2	..	..	..	34
179 Bothwell	Bothwell	10	8	8	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	41
180 Speed	Guelph	14	12	16	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	75
181 Oriental	Port Burwell	5	8	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
182 Tuscan	Levis	2	3	4	1	4	1	..	..	..	..	32
183 Prince Albert	Prince Albert	6	4	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	38
184 Old Light	Lucknow	15	15	14	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	28
185 Enniskillen	York	4	5	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
186 Plantagenet	Plantagenet	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
187 Royal Canadian	Sweetsburgh	4	6	5	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	36
188 Ascot	Lennoxville	6	9	9	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	33
189 Filius Vidue	Adolphustown	1	1	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	24
190 Belmont	Belmont	10	7	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	35
191 Ashlar	Coaticook	8	9	8	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	38
192 Orillia	Orillia	4	6	3	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	19
193 Scotland	Scotland	8	7	9	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	26
194 Petrolia	Petrolia	8	12	13	2	10	..	..	..	..	..	32
195 The Tuscan	London .....	..	..	..	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
196 Madawaska	Arnprior	7	3	4	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	18

Synopsis of the Returns of Lodges for the year ending 24th June, 1869.—Continued.

LODGE.	WHERE HELD.	Initiations.	Passings.	Raisings.	Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Died.	Susp. N.P.D.	Susp. U.M.C.	Expelled.	Restored.	Members.
197 Saugeen	Walkerton	11	9	4	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
198 White Oak	Oakville	11	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
199 Frelighsburg	Frelighsburg	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	18
200 St. Alban's	Mount Forest	17	15	12	5	4	..	..	1	..	1	35
201 Leeds	Gananoqui	7	12	7	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
202 Mount Royal	Montreal	10	8	7	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
203 Irvine	Elora	23	31	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
204 Doric	Danville	18	17	15	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	31
205 New Dominion	New Hamburg	19	15	14	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
206 North Gower	North Gower .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
207 Lancaster	Lancaster .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
208 Chateauguay	Huntingdon	24	24	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
209 Evergreen	Lanark	3	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
210 Hawkesbury	Hawkesbury	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
211 Brome Lake	Knowlton	5	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
212 Elysian	Garden Island	6	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
213 Dominion	Ridgeway .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
214 Craig	Ailsa Craig .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
215 Lake	Roblin's Mills .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
216 Harris	Orangeville .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
217 Frederick	Fredericksburgh .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
218 Stevenson	Toronto .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
TOTALS		1395	1244	1130	309	588	95	194	20	3	49	8797

RECAPITULATION

Of the Returns of Lodges for the year ending 24th June, 1869, as far as heard from.

Lodges working under warrants	209
" represented in Grand Lodge	182
" organized	219
" extinct and dormant	10
" resuscitated	1
" working	209
Initiations reported	1,395
Passings	1,244
Raisings	1,130
Joinings	309
Resignations	588
Deaths	95
Suspensions for non-payment of dues	194
" " unmasonic conduct	20
Expulsions	3
Restorations	49
Members in good standing	8,797

Receipts from Lodges for the fiscal year ending 31st December,
1868, for fees, dues, etc. \$8,612 73

Assets of Grand Lodge, as per Grand Treasurer's Statement to
30th June, 1869. \$32,874 47

Masonic Asylum Fund, as reported 30th June, 1869. \$4,937 01

. The Fifteenth Annual Communication of Grand Lodge will be held at the
City of Toronto, on the second Wednesday in July, A. L. 5870, A. D. 1870.

EXPULSIONS

DAVID BROWNE, Prevost Lodge, No. 1, Dunham, Que.

CHARLES H. POTTER, Prevost Lodge, No. 1, Dunham, Que.

JAMES WIGHT, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, Ont.

At page 231,

No. 63, St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll,
for John *Bowes* read John *Bowers*.

EXPULSIONS

BY THE GRAND LODGE FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

DAVID BROWNE, Prevost Lodge, No. 1, Dunham, Que.

CHARLES H. POTTER, Prevost Lodge, No. 1, Dunham, Que.

JAMES WIGHT, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, Ont.

AN ALMANAC OF FULL MOONS,

SHOWING THE

Days of the Week and Month on which every Full Moon falls, from June, 1868,
to December, 1883, inclusive.

Compiled from De Morgan, by R. W. Bro. W. B. LANGRIDGE, of Iowa.

YEAR.	JANUARY.	FEBRUARY.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.	OCTOBER.	NOVEMBER.	DECEMBER.
1868	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Fr. 5	Sa. 4	Mo. 4	We. 1	Th.Sa. 1 31	Su. 29	Tu. 29
1869	We. 27	Fr. 26	Sa. 27	Su. 25	Tu. 25	We. 23	Fr. 23	Sa. 21	Mo. 20	We. 20	Fr. 19	Sa. 18
1870	Mo. 17	Tu. 15	Th. 17	Fr. 15	Sa. 14	Mo. 13	Tu. 12	Th. 11	Fr. 9	Su. 9	Mo. 7	Th. 7
1871	Fr. 6	Su. 5	Mo. 6	We. 5	Th. 4	Sa. 3	Su.Mo 2 31	We. 30	Th. 28	Sa. 28	Su. 26	Tu. 26
1872	Th. 24	Sa. 23	Su. 24	Tu. 23	We. 22	Fr. 21	Sa. 20	Su. 18	Tu. 16	We. 16	Tu. 15	Su. 14
1873	Mo. 13	Tu. 11	Fr. 14	Sa. 12	Mo. 12	Tu. 10	We. 9	Fr. 8	Sa. 6	Su. 5	Tu. 4	We. 3
1874	Fr. 2	Su. 1	Tu. 3	We. 1	Fr.Su. 1 31	Mo. 29	Tu. 28	Th. 27	Fr. 25	Su. 25	Mo. 23	Tu. 22
1875	Th. 21	Sa. 20	Su. 21	Tu. 20	Th. 20	Fr. 18	Su. 18	Mo. 16	We. 15	Th. 14	Sa. 13	Su. 12
1876	Tu. 10	We. 8	Th. 9	Sa. 8	Mo. 8	Tu. 6	Th. 6	Fr. 4	Sa. 3	Tu. 3	We. 1	Fr.Sa. 1 30
1877	Mo. 29	Tu. 27	Th. 29	Fr. 27	Su. 27	Mo. 25	We. 25	Th. 23	Sa. 22	Mo. 22	Tu. 20	Th. 20
1878	Fr. 18	Su. 17	Mo. 18	We. 17	Th. 16	Fr. 14	Su. 14	Mo. 12	Th. 12	Fr. 11	Sa. 9	Mo. 9
1879	We. 8	Th. 6	Sa. 8	Su. 6	Mo. 5	We. 4	Th. 3	Sa.Su. 2 31	Tu. 30	We. 29	Fr. 28	Sa. 28
1880	Tu. 26	We. 24	Th. 25	Sa. 24	Mo. 24	Tu. 22	We. 21	Fr. 20	Sa. 18	Su. 17	Tu. 16	Th. 16
1881	Sa. 15	Mo. 14	Tu. 15	Th. 14	Fr. 13	Su. 12	Mo. 11	Tu. 9	Th. 8	Fr. 7	Su. 6	Mo. 5
1882	We. 4	Fr. 3	Su. 5	Mo. 3	We. 3	Th. 1	Sa.Su. 1 30	Mo. 28	Tu. 26	Th. 26	Sa. 25	Su. 24
1883	Tu. 23	Th. 22	Fr. 23	Su. 22	Tu. 22	We. 20	Fr. 20	Sa. 18	Su. 16	Tu. 16	We. 14	Fr. 14

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Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Belleville, on Thursday, the 12th of August, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

PRESENT:

M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master.

R. " " J. Seymour, Deputy Grand Master.

" " " E. J. Sisson, as Grand Senior Warden.

" " " A. Diamond, as " Junior "

" " " Rev. G. A. Anderson, as " Chaplain.

" " " Donald Bain, as " Treasurer.

" " " Thomas B. Harris, " Secretary.

" " " Robert Ramsay, as " Registrar.

" " " J. B. McGann, as " Senior Deacon.

" " " J. Northcott, as " Junior "

" " " N. B. Falkiner, as " Supt. of Works.

V. " " John Taylor, as " Dir. of Cer.

" " " J. P. Thomas, as as't " Secretary.

" " " S. Stephens, as " " Dir. of Cer.

" " " R. Booth, as " Sword Bearer.

" " " St. G. B. Crozier, as " Organist.

" " " D. Price, as " " "

" " " H. Stephenson, as " Pursuivant.

" " " J. T. Watson,

" " " J. B. Fralick,

" " " Geo. D. Dickson,

" " " W. A. Shepard,

" " " Thomas Kelso,

" " " W. E. Thompson,

} as " Stewards.

About two hundred Brethren, hailing from the following Lodges, viz.: Moria Lodge, No. 11 ; The Belleville Lodge, No. 123 ; Prince Edward's Lodge, No. 18 ; Stirling Lodge, No. 69 ; Trent Lodge, No. 38 ; Madoc Lodge, No. 48 ; and other Lodges.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in *ample form*, the Grand Master explained the object of this Special Communication, and regretted that it had not been possible for a larger number of the Grand Officers to be present, but was highly pleased at the good attendance of the Brethren. The acting Grand Director of Ceremonies was then instructed to form the procession, in the order laid down in the Book of Constitution. When the procession reached Pinnacle street, it was joined by the Firemen of Belleville and Oswego, accompanied by the Band of the Royal Canadian Rifles and the Band of the 15th Battalion.

On arriving at the site of the new building, the procession opened out, and the Grand Officers marched through to the spot where the stone was to be laid. The Grand Master and other Grand Officers then ascended the platform, when an ode suitable to the occasion was performed by the Band of the Royal Canadian Rifles.

The M. W. Grand Master addressed the assemblage as follows :

Men, women, and children, assembled here to behold this ceremony: Know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God—who is the Great Architect of the Universe,—to honor the Queen: to confer benefits upon our brethren: and to practice universal benevolence towards all mankind. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all other men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered ; but those secrets are lawful and honorable, and

are placed in the custody of Masons, who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time.

We admit into our Order only such as are reported to be good men and true: of a lawful age, good morals and sound judgment. We meet upon a level and are constantly instructed to square our conduct by the principles of Morality and Virtue. Men of every class and rank of life, without regard to race, religion or nationality are enrolled as members of our ancient and honorable fraternity, even monarchs, the most powerful and enlightened, have in all ages been active promoters of our art, and have not thought it derogatory from their dignity to join our assemblies and participate in our mysteries.

The lapse of time, the ruthless hand of ignorance, and the devastations of war have laid waste and destroyed many valuable monuments of antiquity on which the utmost exertions of human genius have been employed. Even the Temple of Solomon, so spacious and magnificent, and constructed by so many celebrated artists, escaped not the unsparing ravages of barbaric force. Freemasonry, notwithstanding, still survives. The attentive ear receives the sound from the instructive tongue, and the mysteries of Masonry are safely lodged in the sacred repository of faithful breasts. Tools and implements of architecture are selected by the fraternity to imprint on the memory wise and serious truths; and thus, through successive ages are transmitted pure and unimpaired, the excellent tenets of our institution.

The laws of Masonry are reason and equity; its principles, benevolence and love; its religion, purity and truth; its intention, peace on earth; and its disposition, good will towards all men.

Unless our Craft were good and our calling honorable we should not have existed for so many centuries; nor should we see to-day, as in all times past, so many distinguished

and illustrious brethren throughout the civilized world sanctioning our proceedings and contributing to our prosperity.

Ever since the building of King Solomon's Temple, our Order has rendered to the world the most signal service, in cultivating amongst its members, a taste for the liberal arts and sciences, and in promoting a desire for the more general diffusion of scientific knowledge. In former ages, many of the grandest monuments of architectural skill were wholly constructed by the Masonic fraternity, (then a practical operative body) and in later times our assistance is yet required for the performance of such duties as those which you have now solicited at our hands.

It affords us peculiar pleasure to comply with your request to lay with Masonic ceremonies the Foundation Stone of an asylum for that unfortunate class of our fellow creatures--the Deaf and Dumb of the Province of Ontario. The humane objects of such an institution are so thoroughly in unison with the aims and purposes of our Order, that it must be a source of rejoicing to every Freemason, whether present or absent, that the Lord hath inclined the hearts of those in authority to erect this building. Within its walls, hundreds, who have by the decree of an all-wise Providence, been denied the inestimable blessings of hearing and speech, will, we fervently hope, be enabled pleasantly to pass the time of their sojourn here on earth until they reach the other side of the dark river, when every ear will be unstopped, and every tongue unloosed, to unite in the celestial song, throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity.

The establishment of this institution is an evidence of the advanced civilization of the present age, and the recognition of Freemasonry in connection with the proceedings of to-day, is an indication of the enlightened and liberal sentiments which actuate those gentlemen to whom has been entrusted the government of this important portion of the Dominion of Canada.

We shall now lay the stone in accordance with the rites of our fraternity. But before proceeding, our Rev. Chaplain will implore a blessing from Heaven on the undertaking.

ACTING GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Almighty and Eternal God, Architect and Ruler of the Universe, at whose creative fiat all things first were made: We, the frail creatures of thy providence, do humbly beseech of thee to pour down on this convocation the continual dew of thy blessing. More especially we invoke thy blessing on this undertaking; ever remembering the object and aim of this institution—obedience to thy most holy laws. Grant, we beseech thee, that our Order may flourish in every part of the globe, become influential in the diffusion of the light of wisdom, aiding and strengthening reason and dissipating and lessening human vice. May it teach us to regulate our actions by the rule of unity, square our conduct by the principle of morality, and guide our thoughts and our conversation within the compass of propriety.

May the edifice which is this day commenced be carried forward to its completion prosperously. Do Thou protect the workmen; secure them from all injury; and when completed, may it be the means of strengthening our Order.

Finally, grant unto us the knowledge of Thy truth. Do Thou be our Ruler; and finally admit us into Thy kingdom, for thy great Name's sake. Amen.

Glory be to God on high.

RESPONSE.—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

The Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Harris, then read the contents of the parchment to be deposited in the cavity of the stone, as follows:

By the favor of Almighty God.

On the Twelfth day of August, A. D. 1869,

Of the Era of Freemasonry, A. L. 5869,

And in the Thirty-third year of the reign of Our Beloved Sovereign,

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Dependencies of the
British Empire in Europe, India, and Australasia,

The Right Hon. Sir JOHN YOUNG, K. C. B., &c., &c., &c., being
Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada,

AND

The Hon. WILLIAM PEARCE HOWLAND, C. B., Lieutenant-Governor of
the Province of Ontario,

ALEXANDER ALLAN STEVENSON, Esq., M. W. Grand Master.

The Foundation Stone of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum,

For the Province of Ontario,

Was laid with Masonic Ceremonies, by the Officers of the Grand Lodge
of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada,

And the Lodges and Brethren of Belleville and neighborhood,

Whom may God Prosper.

The above, together with copies of the Grand Lodge reports, a copy of the report of the Hamilton Asylum of Deaf and Dumb, a copy of Dr. Ryerson's report on Deaf and Dumb, copies of the Daily and Weekly *Intelligencer*, Weekly *Chronicle*, Daily *Globe* and *Telegraph*, and the various coins of Canada, were then placed in a box, properly sealed and deposited in the cavity of the stone.

The contractor, Mr. Kempster, then presented to the Grand Master a very handsome Silver Trowel, beautifully chased and inscribed as follows:

"Presented to A. A. STEVENSON, M. W. Grand Master of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada, by C. W. and T. L. KEMPSTER, Contractors, on the occasion of laying the Corner Stone of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, at Belleville, Ont., the 12th day of August, A. D. 1869."

On receiving which the Grand Master replied—

Accept my thanks for this beautiful Trowel which you have so kindly presented to me. It is one of the most useful and most highly-prized implements of our Craft. I shall preserve your gift, not only as a memento of the interesting proceedings of this day, but also on account of the surpassing beauty of its workmanship, which reflects great credit on the silversmith who made it.

After receiving the Trowel, and also a handsome Gavel, made for the occasion, the Grand Master spread the cement, and the upper stone was lowered by three regular stops, solemn music being played; after which the Grand Junior Warden applied the plumb, the Grand Senior Warden the level, and the Deputy Grand Master the square.

G. M.—Brother Grand Junior Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office?

G. J. W.—The plumb rule.

G. M.—Have you applied the plumb rule to the edges of the stone?

G. J. W.—I have, Most Worshipful Sir, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

The same questions as to level and square, with a like response, were put to and given by the G. S. W. and D. G. Master.

G. M.—R. W. and W. Brethren, having full confidence in your skill in our royal art, it remains for me, as Grand Master, to finish the work. (Three knocks were then given upon the stone with the Gavel). *Well made, truly laid, well proved, true and trusty.* I strew Corn upon the stone as the emblem of plenty; I pour Wine on it as the emblem of cheerfulness; and I anoint it with Oil as the emblem of comfort and consolation.

May Corn, Wine and Oil, and all the necessities of life abound amongst men, and may the Great Architect of the Universe, who has so kindly blessed us in the proceedings of this day, enable those engaged in the erection of this building to complete it; may he protect the workmen from accident, and long preserve the structure from ruin or decay that it may serve for generations yet to come, the humane and benevolent purpose for which it is intended.

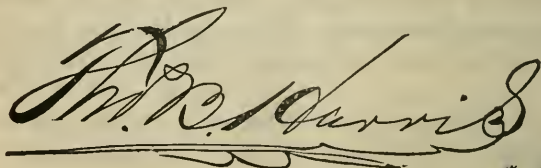
RESPONSE.—So mote it be.

The implements and plan of the building were then handed over to the Architect, whom the Grand Master thus addressed: Master Architect,—The foundation stone of this building being now laid, I present you with the implements applied to it, as also the plan, in full confidence that as a skilful and faithful workman you will use them in such a manner that the building may rise in order, harmony and beauty, and that when completed, it may establish your reputation as a skilful builder and reflect credit also upon those who have selected you for this undertaking.

A piece of music was then played. Some coin was placed upon the stone for the benefit of the workmen, by the Acting Grand Treasurer, after which a few speeches, were delivered appropriate to the occasion.

The ceremonies being concluded, the procession was reformed and returned to the Hall.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form with solemn prayer.

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "M. B. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style with long, sweeping strokes. Below the signature is a decorative horizontal line with a central flourish.

G. Sec'y.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At a Special Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at Montreal, in the room of St. Paul's Lodge, St. Lawrence Hall, commencing on Wednesday, the 1st day of December, A. L. 5869, A. D. 1869.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro.	A. A. Stevenson,	Grand Master,	
		On the Throne.	
R. W. Bro.	James Seymour,	Deputy Grand Master.	
" "	Peter J. Brown,	Grand Senior Warder.	
" "	Daniel Thomas,	" Junior Warden.	
" "	Rev. H. Montgomery,	" Chaplain.	
V. "	James Bain,	as " Treasurer.	
R. "	Silas B. Fairbanks,	" Registrar.	
" "	Thomas B. Harris,	" Secretary.	
V. "	R. P. Stephens,	" Senior Deacon.	
" "	John E. Harding,	as " Junior Deacon.	
" "	W. Chatfield,	" Supt. of Works.	
" "	Charles Sharpe,	" Dir. of Cer.	
" "	Thos. White, jr.,	as Asst. " Secretary.	
" "	E. P. Remon,	as Asst. " Dir. of Cer.	
" "	Robert Lewis,	" Sword Bearer.	
" "	William Nivin,	as " Organist.	
" "	Robert Robinson,	as " Pursuivant.	

V. W. Bro.	C. Boright,		
" "	" D. McLellan,		
" "	" A. Diamond,		
" "	" C. D. Macdonnell,	as	} " Stewards.
" "	" Allan McLean,	as	
" "	" J. B. Bickell,	as	
	" Wilson B. Allan,	as	
			" Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Bro.	David Curtis,	Wilson	District.
" "	" Thomas Matheson,	Huron	"
" "	" Otto Klotz,	Wellington	"
" "	" Thomas Wilkinson,	St. Lawrence	"
" "	" J. J. Gemmill,	Ottawa	"
" "	" M. Gutman,	Montreal	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro.	W. M. Wilson,	Past Grand Master.
" "	" T. Douglas Harington,	" " "
" "	" W. B. Simpson,	" " "
" "	" A. Bernard,	" " "
R. "	" C. D. Macdonnell,	P. D. D. G. M.
" "	" L. H. Henderson.	" "
" "	" J. Milne,	" "
" "	" John V. Noel,	" "
" "	" Charles Kahn,	" "
" "	" John Turner,	" "
" "	" S. D. Fowler,	P. G. Senior Warden.
" "	" A. S. Kirkpatrick,	" " "
" "	" Rev. V. Clementi,	" Chaplain.
" "	" Daniel Spry,	" Registrar.
V. "	" John Clarke,	" Senior Deacon.
" "	" E. M. Copeland,	P. G. Sup. of Works.
" "	" Wm. Angus,	P. Asst. G. Secretary
" "	" James Bain,	P. G. Sword Bearer.
" "	" F. C. Dettmers,	" Organist.
" "	" Thomas White, jr.,	P. Asst. G. Organist.
" "	" H. Waterman,	" " " "

V. W. Bro. Phillip Henry,	P. G. Steward.
" " " J. B. Bickell,	" "
" " " J. Patterson,	" "
" " " Allan McLean,	" "
" " " George Billington,	" "
" " " William Wilkinson,	" "

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to announce that he had appointed the following Brethren to be a Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies, viz.: R. W. Bros. M. Gutman and Charles D. Macdonnell, and V. W. Bro. Allan McLean.

A constitutional number of representatives from Lodges being present, the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon our proceedings.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada was opened in **ample form** at four o'clock p.m.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following Representatives and Proxies from Lodges, viz.:

No.— *Antiquity Lodge, Montreal, Q.*

R. W. Bro. M. Gutman, W. M.
 " John Urquhart, jr., J. W.
 V. " " Philip Henry, P. G. S.
 " " F. C. Dettmers, P. G. O.

No. 2. *Niagara Lodge, Niagara, O.*

R. W. Bro. James Seymour, (Proxy.)

No. 3. *St. John's Lodge, Kingston, O.*

R. W. Bro. S. D. Fowler, (Proxy.)
 " " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. M.
 " " " Alex. S. Kirkpatrick, P. M.

No. 4. *Dorchester Lodge, St. Johns' P. Q.*

Bro. Geo. H. Wilkinson, S. W.
 " James S. Allan, J. W.

- No. 5. *Sussex Lodge, Brockville, O.*
 R. W. Bro. Thomas Wilkinson, P. M., (Proxy.)
 M. " " W. B. Simpson, P. M.
- No. 6. *Barton Lodge, Hamilton, O.*
 Bro. James Charlton, J. W.
- No. 7. *Union Lodge, Grimsby, O.*
 W. Bro. Seymour, (Proxy.)
- No. 8. *Nelson Lodge, Phillipsburgh, Q.*
 Bro. E. A. Bourrett, S. W.
 R. W. " Rev. H. Montgomery, P. M.
- No. 9. *Union Lodge, Napanee, O.*
 W. Bro. F. Richardson, W. M.
- No. 10. *Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, O.*
 M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, P. M. (Proxy.)
 V. " " John Clarke, P. M.
- No. 11. *Moria Lodge, Belleville, O.*
 W. Bro. A. Diamond, W. M.
 R. " " L. H. Henderson, P. M.
- No. 15. *St. George's Lodge, St. Catharines, O.*
 V. W. Bro. W. Chatfield, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 16. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto, O.*
 V. W. Bro. James Bain, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 18. *Prince Edward's Lodge, Picton, O.*
 W. Bro. J. N. Carter, W. M.
- No. 19. *St. George's Lodge, Montreal, Q.*
 M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, W. M.
 " " Arthur Sowdon, S. W.
 " " " A. A. Stevenson, P. M.
 R. " " Robert Irwin, P. M.
 V. " " E. M. Copeland, P. M.
 " " " W. Angus, P. M.

- No. 20. *St. John's Lodge, London, O.*
Bro. M. D. Dawson, S. W.
- No. 21. *Zetland Lodge, Montreal, Q.*
Bro. Jas. Henderson, S. W.
" J. G. A. LeBlanc, J. W.
- No. 22. *King Solomon's Lodge, Toronto, O.*
V. W. Bro. David McLellan, W. M.
R. " " Daniel Spry, P. M.
- No. 23. *Richmond Lodge, Richmond Hill, O.*
R. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, (Proxy.)
- No. 25. *Ionic Lodge, Toronto, O.*
V. W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, W. M.
- No. 26. *Ontario Lodge, Port Hope, O.*
Bro. J. B. Trayes, J. W.
- No. 27. *Strict Observance Lodge, Hamilton, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, (Proxy.)
- No. 28. *Mount Zion Lodge, Kemptville, O.*
M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, (Proxy.)
- No. 30. *Composite Lodge, Whitby, O.*
R. W. Bro. S. B. Fairbanks, (Proxy.)
- No. 31. *Jerusalem Lodge, Bowmanville, O.*
R. W. Bro. J. Milne, W. M.
- No. 37. *King Hiram Lodge, Ingersoll, O.*
R. W. Bro. P. J. Brown, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 38. *Trent Lodge, Trenton, O.*
W. Bro. G. E. Fraser, (Proxy.)
- No. 39. *Mount Zion Lodge, Brooklin, O.*
V. W. Bro. J. B. Bickell, P. M.
- No. 40. *St. John's Lodge, Hamilton, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, W. M.

- No. 42. *St. George's Lodge, London, O.*
V. W. Bro. H. Waterman, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 43. *King Solomon's Lodge, Woodstock, O.*
V. W. Bro. John Paterson, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 44. *'St. Thomas' Lodge, St. Thomas, O.*
M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, (Proxy.)
- No. 45. *Brant Lodge, Brantford, O.*
Bro. H. McK. Wilson, S. W.
R. W. " D. Curtis, P. M.
- No. 46. *Wellington Lodge, Chatham, O.*
W. Bro. N. S. Gurd, (Proxy.)
- No. 49. *Harington Lodge, Quebec.*
W. Bro. S. J. Burnstein, W. M.
" " A. McCallum, P. M.
- No. 50. *Consecon Lodge, Consecon, O.*
W. Bro. A. Diamond, (Proxy.)
- No. 53. *Shefford Lodge, Waterloo, Q.*
W. Bro. W. W. Taylor, P. M., (Proxy.)
" " W. G. Parmelee, P. M.
- No. 54. *Vaughan Lodge, Maple, O.*
W. Bro. Joseph Jackes, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 55. *Mirickville Lodge, Mirickville, O.*
W. Bro. H. Merrick, P. M., (Proxy.)
" " Rev. Chas. Forest, P. M.
- No. 56. *Victoria Lodge, Sarnia, O.*
W. Bro. R. S. Gurd, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 58. *Doric Lodge, Ottawa, O.*
R. W. Bro. J. J. Gemmill, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 59. *Corinthian Lodge, Ottawa, O.*
W. Bro. E. P. Remon, P. M., (Proxy.)

- No. 60. *Hoyle Lodge, La Colle, Q.*
W. Bro. Daniel Salt, W. M.
" " T. Featherstone, P. M.
" " W. H. Vanvliet, P. M.
- No. 61. *Acacia Lodge, Hamilton, O.*
Bro. James Charlton, (Proxy.)
- No. 62. *St. Andrew's Lodge, Caledonia, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 64. *Kilwinning Lodge, London, O.*
V. W. Bro. R. Lewis, P. M.
- No. 66. *Durham Lodge, Newcastle, O.*
R. W. Bro. J. Milne, (Proxy.)
- No. 68. *St. John's Lodge, Ingersoll, O.*
V. W. Bro. Allan McLean, P. M.
- No. 72. *Alma Lodge, Galt, O.*
R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 73. *St. James' Lodge, St. Mary's, O.*
W. Bro. J. E. Harding, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 74. *St. James' Lodge, Maitland, O.*
W. Bro. James T. Culbert, W. M.
- No. 75. *St. John's Lodge, Toronto, O.*
W. Bro. Fred. J. Menet, W. M.
" " Joseph Jackes, P. M.
- No. 76. *Oxford Lodge, Woodstock, O.*
V. W. Bro. John Paterson, (Proxy.)
- No. 78. *King Hiram Lodge, Tilsonburgh, O.*
R. W. Bro. P. J. Brown, (Proxy.)
- No. 81. *St. John's Lodge, Mount Brydges, O.*
V. W. Bro. G. Billington, W. M.

- No. 82. *St. John's Lodge, Paris, O.*
M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, (Proxy.)
- No. 83. *Beaver Lodge, Strathroy, O.*
V. W. Bro. G. Billington, (Proxy.)
- No. 84. *Clinton Lodge, Clinton, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. Matheson, (Proxy.)
- No. 86. *Wilson Lodge, Toronto, O.*
W. Bro. R. Robinson, W. M.
- No. 87. *Markham Union Lodge, Markham, O.*
W. Bro. R. Robinson, (Proxy.)
- No. 88. *St. George's Lodge, Owen Sound, O.*
V. W. Bro. James Bain, (Proxy.)
- No. 90. *Manito Lodge, Collingwood, O.*
V. W. Bro. R. P. Stephens, (Proxy.)
- No. 92. *Cataraqui Lodge, Kingston, O.*
R. W. Bro. J. V. Noel, P. M., (Proxy.)
" " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. M.
- No. 93. *Northern Light Lodge, Kincardine, O.*
W. Bro. R. L. Hunter, (Proxy.)
- No. 95. *Ridout Lodge, Otterville, O.*
V. W. Bro. Allan McLean, (Proxy.)
- No. 96. *Corinthian Lodge, Barrie, O.*
W. Bro. Robert King, W. M.
- No. 97. *Sharon Lodge, Sharon, O.*
W. Bro. E. Jackson, (Proxy.)
- No. 99. *Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket, O.*
W. Bro. E. Jackson, W. M.
- No. 100. *Valley Lodge, Dundas, O.*
V. W. Bro. T. White, jr., (Proxy.)

- No. 101. *Corinthian Lodge, Peterboro', O.*
 Bro. J. T. Dennistoun, J. W.
R. W. " Rev. V. Clementi, P. M.
- No. 103. *Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines, O.*
 W. Bro. W. Chatfield, P. M.
R. " " J. Seymour, P. M.
- No. 105. *St. Mark's Lodge, Drummondville, O.*
 Bro. James McGarry, S. W.
- No. 106. *Burford Lodge, Burford, O.*
R. W. Bro. D. Curtis, (Proxy.)
- No. 108. *Blenheim Lodge, Drumbo, O.*
V. W. Bro. Thomas White, jr., (Proxy.)
- No. 110. *Central Lodge, Prescott, O.*
 W. Bro. Rev. E. W. Beaven, W. M.
 " " Angus Grant, P. M.
- No. 112. *Maitland Lodge, Goderich, O.*
R. W. Bro. Charles Kahn, (Proxy.)
- No. 113. *Wilson Lodge, Waterford, O.*
V. W. Bro. John Clarke, (Proxy.)
- No. 114. *Hope Lodge, Port Hope, O.*
R. W. Bro. S. B. Fairbanks, (Proxy.)
- No. 116. *Cassia Lodge, Widder, Ont.*
R. W. Bro. Chas. Kahn, (Proxy.)
- No. 118. *Union Lodge, Lloydtown, O.*
 W. Bro. F. J. Menet, (Proxy.)
- No. 121. *Doric Lodge, Brantford, O.*
 Bro. H. McK. Wilson, (Proxy.)
- No. 123. *The Belleville Lodge, Belleville, O.*
 W. Bro. Donald Bain, W. M.

- No. 125. *Cornwall Lodge, Cornwall, O.*
W. Bro. P. B. Martin, W. M.
 " H. W. Weber, J. W.
- No. 127. *Franck Lodge, Frankford, O.*
W. Bro. G. E. Fraser, W. M.
- No. 129. *The Rising Sun Lodge, Aurora, O.*
W. Bro. W. Ireland, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 133. *Lebanon Forest Lodge, Franceston, O.*
W. Bro. R. L. Hunter, (Proxy.)
- No. 134. *Shawenegam Lodge, Three Rivers, Q.*
R. W. Bro. John Turner, P. M.
 " " Thomas G. Farmer, P. M.
- No. 135. *St Clair Lodge, Milton, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, (Proxy.)
- No. 136. *Richardson Lodge, Stouffville, O.*
V. W. Bro. James Bain, (Proxy.)
- No. 138. *Aylmer Lodge, Aylmer, O.*
W. Bro. C. H. Church, W. M.
- No. 139. *Lebanon Lodge, Oshawa, O.*
R. W. Bro. S. B. Fairbanks, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 141. *Tudor Lodge, Mitchell, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. Matheson, P. M., (Proxy.)
- No. 144. *Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford, O.*
R. W. Bro. Chas. Kahn, W. M.
- No. 145. *J. B. Halt Lodge, Millbrook, O.*
R. W. Bro. C. D. Macdonnell, (Proxy.)
- No. 147. *Mississippi Lodge, Almonte, O.*
Bro. R. Watson, S. W.

- No. 148. *Civil Service Lodge, Ottawa, O.*
M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, P. M.
" " E. P. Remon, W. M.
- No. 149. *Erie Lodge, Port Dover, O.*
M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, (Proxy.)
- No. 155. *Peterborough Lodge, Peterboro', O.*
W. Bro. D. S. Eastwood, W. M.
- No. 156. *York Lodge, Eglinton, O.*
W. Bro. Joseph Jackes, W. M.
- No. 157. *Simpson Lodge, Newboro', O.*
M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, (Proxy.)
- No. 160. *Quebec Garrison Lodge, Quebec, Q.*
W. Bro. W. Wilkinson, W. M.
" " C. Staveley, P. M.
- No. 163. *Browne Lodge, West Farnham, Q.*
W. Bro. G. H. Kemp, W. M.
- No. 166. *Wentworth Lodge, Stoney Creek, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, (Proxy.)
- No. 170. *Britannia Lodge, Seaforth, O.*
R. W. Bro. T. Matheson, (Proxy.)
- No. 172. *Ayr Lodge, Ayr, O.*
V. W. Bro. Charles Sharpe, (Proxy.)
- No. 174. *Walsingham Lodge, Port Rowan, O.*
V. W. Bro. John Clarke, (Proxy.)
- No. 176. *Spartan Lodge, Sparta, O.*
V. W. Bro. R. Lewis, (Proxy.)
- No. 177. *The Builders' Lodge, Ottawa, O.*
W. Bro. C. Leggo, P. M., (Proxy.)

- No. 180. *Speed Lodge, Guelph, O.*
V. W. Bro. C. Sharpe, W. M.
 " J. Cridiford, J. W.
- No. 181. *Oriental Lodge, Port Burwell, O.*
R. W. Bro. P. J. Brown, (Proxy.)
- No. 184. *Old Light Lodge, Lucknow, O.*
W. Bro. R. L. Hunter, W. M.
- No. 187. *Royal Canadian Lodge, Sweetsburgh, Q.*
W. Bro. E. Racicot, W. M.
 " C. K. Boright, S. W.
 " " H. D. Pickel, P. M.
- No. 188. *Ascot Lodge, Lennoxville, Q.*
R. W. Bro. Henry Stearns, P. M.
- No. 189. *Filius Viduæ Lodge, Adolphustown, O.*
W. Bro. J. C. Chamberlain, W. M.
- No. 192. *Orillia Lodge, Orillia, O.*
W. Bro. C. S. Elliot, W. M.
- No. 193. *Scotland Lodge, Scotland, O.*
Bro. H. McK. Wilson, (Proxy.)
- No. 195. *Tuscan Lodge, London, O.*
V. W. Bro. H. Waterman, P. M.
- No. 196. *Maduwaska Lodge, Arnprior, O.*
Bro. J. G. Cranston, S. W.
- No. 198. *White Oak Lodge, Oakville, O.*
V. W. Bro. Thomas White, jr., (Proxy.)
- No. 201. *Leeds Lodge, Gananoque, O.*
W. Bro. Wm. Byers, jun., W. M.
- No. 203. *Irvine Lodge, Elora, O.*
R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, (Proxy.)

No. 205. *New Dominion Lodge, New Hamburg, O.*
R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, (Proxy.)

No. 207 *Lancaster Lodge, Lancaster, O.*
W. Bro. A. McGregor, W. M.,
" Thomas Ross, M. D., S. W.

No. 208. *Chateauguay Lodge, Huntingdon, Q*
W. Bro. Rev. W. C. Clarke, W. M.
" D. Boyd, S. W.
" Wm. Buckham.

No. 209. *Evergreen Lodge, Lanark, O.*
Bro. Thomas Watchorn, J. W.

No. 210. *Hawkesbury Lodge, Hawkesbury, O.*
W. Bro. C. S. Elliott, (Proxy.)

No. 211. *Brome Lake Lodge, Knowlton, Q.*
W. Bro. H. D. Pickel, W. M.

No. 212. *Elysian Lodge, Garden Island, O.*
Bro. Robert Nancollas, S. W.

No. 216. *Harris Lodge, Orangeville, O.*
W. Bro. R. Robinson, (Proxy.)

No. 218. *Stevenson Lodge, Toronto, O.*
W. Bro. W. C. Morrison, W. M.

The Grand Secretary read the following circular issued by command of the M. W. Grand Master convening this Special Emergent Communication of Grand Lodge :

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA,

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

HAMILTON, 10th November, 1869.

Dear Sir and W. Brother,—

By direction of the M. W. the Grand Master, I am to inform you that a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada will be held in the Masonic Hall, corner of Place d'Armes and Notre Dame Street, Montreal, P. Q.,

on Wednesday the 1st day of Dec. next, at the hour of High Twelve, for the purpose of adopting such measures as may be deemed necessary, in view of the recent rebellion and secession of certain Lodges and Brethren within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and for the transaction of all business that may arise in connection with this matter. I am to urge upon your Lodge, as also upon the officers of Grand Lodge, in view of the very great interest to the Craft of any decision to be arrived at, the importance of the meeting and the desirability of a full representation of the several Lodges.

In the event of the Lodge having held its regular meeting for the present month, you are requested to convene an Emergency Meeting immediately on the receipt of this circular, with the object of laying this important subject before it; and should circumstances preevnt the attendance at Grand Lodge of the regularly qualified officers, the Lodge is requested to avail itself of the provisions of the Constitution, Art. 8, by appointing some qualified Brother to represent it. (*See form of Proxy inside.*)

Arrangements similar to those made for the July meeting have been secured with the Grand Trunk, Buffalo and Lake Huron, Great Western, Northern, St. Lawrence and Ottawa, and the Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railways.

The necessary Certificates are enclosed herewith. A Memorandum of the arrangements is appended.

Believe me to remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

THOS. B. HARRIS,
Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during business.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to read the following address to the Brethren in Grand Lodge assembled.

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA:

It is to me a source of deep regret, that circumstances should have arisen within this jurisdiction, to necessitate the summoning of an Emergent Communication of Grand Lodge at this unusual period of the year. Notwithstanding the difficulty and inconvenience, which, I am aware, many of you have experienced in assembling here at this season, it will, I think, be readily acknowledged that the events which have lately transpired in this Province are of such a nature as to require some action being taken on the part of Grand Lodge. The organization, on the 20th of October, of a so-called Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, a territory embraced within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and over which it has exercised authority for the past fourteen years, and the repudiation of the allegiance due to the Grand Lodge of Canada, by any number of Lodges or Brethren, however few or insignificant, were occurrences of too much importance, to be allowed to pass unnoticed or unquestioned. It is true that I might have exercised the prerogatives which belong to the high and responsible position which I have now the honor to hold; but I deemed it to be a wiser course to convene Grand Lodge at the earliest practicable moment, and submit a record of the official action I had found it to be my duty to take in relation to the movement in question, submitting at the same time such facts as have come to my knowledge in regard to its extent, and also my own views on the legal aspect of the case. Its history, extent, and nature, being presented in that form, will, I trust, enable Grand Lodge to clearly comprehend the true condition of affairs.

Early in September last, it was rumored here that an effort would shortly be made to effect, if possible, the dismemberment of this Grand Lodge, and that meetings had been (or would shortly be) held, having that object in view. Nothing, however, transpired to afford me any definite information on the subject, until the morning of the 25th of September, when I received the following letter:

MONTREAL, 25TH SEPT., 1869.

ALEX. ALLAN STEVENSON, Esq.,

Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Canada :

MY DEAR SIR, AND MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER,—I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting of the delegates from the various lodges in the Province of Quebec, held in this city last evening, the following Committee was named to wait upon you, and acquaint you with the action which at present it seemed desirable should be taken in regard to the interests of Masonry in this Province, viz. :—R. W. Bro. Graham, R. W. Bro. Isaacson, and W. Bro. Milton, together with the writer. As R. W. Bro. Graham proposes leaving town this afternoon, we would feel it an obligation if you would name an early hour this morning when the desired interview may take place.

Waiting your reply, I have the honor to be,

My dear Sir and Most Worshipful Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

ALEXANDER MURRAY.

To which I replied :

MONTREAL, SEPT. 25TH, 1869.

Alexander Murray, Esq.,

MY DEAR SIR AND R. W. BROTHER,—In reply to your favor of this date, informing me that a Committee consisting of R. W. Bros. Graham and Isaacson, W. Bro. Milton and yourself, had been named at a meeting of delegates of Lodges in the Province of Quebec to wait upon me and acquaint me with the action which it seemed desirable should be taken in regard to the interests of Masonry in this Province, and enquiring at what hour it would be convenient for me to meet those Brethren, I have to say that half-past 11 this forenoon would answer me, if that hour would be suitable for the Brethren named. It will, however be necessary that R. W. Brother Gutman, D. D. G. M. for this District, be also present at the proposed interview.

I remain, dear Sir and R. W. Bro.,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

A. A. STEVENSON,

Grand Master:

The Brethren above-named waited upon me in accordance with this arrangement, but objected to introduce the subject on which they desired to consult me, if R. W. Bro. Gutman was to be permitted to be present. I called their attention to the express provision in my reply to R. W. Bro. Murray, that that officer should be present at the proposed interview and further stated that whatever might be the nature of their business, I must positively refuse hearing anything relating to Freemasonry, which it would not be proper for them to say in his presence. That as District Deputy Grand Master, he had an undoubted right to know everything which transpired within his District, &c., &c. The deputation, after consulting together, asked leave to withdraw for a short time, and on their return, presented the following document:

The undersigned Freemasons, in good standing, beg leave respectfully to submit to the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, as follows:

That at a large and influential meeting of the Brethren from various Lodges in the Province of Quebec, held in this city last evening, they were requested and deputed to wait upon the M. W. the G. M. of the G. L. of Canada, and to inform him that the said meeting unanimously expressed itself in favor of the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, to be constitutionally established at an early date, and to ascertain from him whether he, as M. W. G. M., would be willing, at the earliest practicable time, to summon an Emergent Communication of the G. L. of Canada, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the important object they have in view can be carried out in a manner mutually satisfactory to all concerned.

J. H. GRAHAM,
JOHN HELDER ISAACSON.
THOS. MILTON.
ALEX. MURRAY.

Montreal, 25th Sept. 1869.

I read it over carefully, and informed those Brethren that so far as I then saw, there could only be one answer given to such a request—that they did not place before me any

facts which would justify me in complying therewith—that the document itself, signed by four Past Masters, gave me no information whatever as to the reasons which attended them in making such a request, nor did it furnish any particulars relative to the meeting, whose delegation they purported to be, except that it was “*large and influential.*” I concluded by saying that I would give the subject most earnest consideration, and would answer them more formally in a day or two. I subsequently learned that the meeting held on 24th September, had, previously to appointing the deputation to wait upon me, resolved to call a convention to be held on the 20th October, for the purpose of forming a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, and that it had been agreed, that it mattered not what the nature of the reply received might be, it would not in any way alter their determination. Under these circumstances I conceived it to be my duty to summon those four Brethren to appear before me, and accordingly on the 30th September I instructed Grand Secretary to issue summonses requiring them to appear on the 8th of October, to give an explanation of their conduct. Three of the Brethren fyled an appearance, viz: R. W. Bros. Isaacson and Murray, and W. Bro. Milton, the latter of whom raised the question as to whether I possessed the power to summon him, he being a Past Master under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. I replied that, in my judgment, he was attempting to subvert the authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the fact of his belonging to a Lodge, working in this Province, by permission, under another jurisdiction, did not debar me from exercising masonic authority over him, when he set himself up in opposition to the Supreme Masonic Government of the country. R. W. Bro. Graham did not comply with the summons, nor with the *peremptory* summons issued to him on the 11th October. The explanations given by the other three Brethren were most unsatisfactory. They admitted that they had no grievances to complain of, nor did they show any advantages which would result from a division of our Grand Lodge. I pointed out to these Brethren the impropriety of the step they were about

taking, and the evil consequences to Freemasonry which must inevitably follow. I called their attention to the obligations which they had voluntarily taken, to uphold and maintain that which they were now attempting to destroy, and urged upon them, in the strongest possible terms, to desist from the agitation of the question for the present at least, and if it should turn out that there existed so strong a feeling on the subject as they then pretended, the question might come up for discussion at the next annual communication of Grand Lodge. With this they professed to be satisfied, but asked time to consult with their friends, which was granted. On the 11th, the same three brethren re-appeared, and informed me that they positively declined to withdraw themselves from the movement.

On 12th October, the following circular was placed in my hands, viz.:

To the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers and other Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Quebec :

BRETHREN,—At a large and influential meeting of Brethren hailing from different Grand Lodge jurisdictions,—held in the City of Montreal, on the 12th day of August ult., and adjourned to, and held in the same place on the 24th day of September, inst., it was, after mature deliberation, unanimously resolved, that a circular be forwarded to all the Lodges in this Province, requesting them to be duly represented at a Convention to be held in the British Masonic Chambers, in the City of Montreal, on Wednesday the 20th day of October, at Seven o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of Free Masonry in this Province; and to proceed, if so decided, to the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec.

Therefore we, the undersigned, Free Masons in good standing, having been deputed by said meeting, do hereby request all the Lodges in this Province, to be duly and constitutionally represented at the Convention aforesaid, if

practicable by *all* their Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens, for the important object afore mentioned.

(Signed,)

J. H. GRAHAM, L.L.D., P.D.D.G.M., E.T.D.

J. H. ISAACSON, P.D.D.G.M., M.D.

G. H. BORLASE, P.D.D.G.M., E.T.D.

ALEX. MURRAY, P.D.D.G.M., M.D.

THOS. MILTON, P.M., St. Lawrence Lodge, 640 E.R.

THOS. WOOD, M.L.C., P.M., Prevost Lodge, 1 C. R.

EDSON KEMP, W.M. do do do do

M. R. MEIGS, P.M., Stanbridge Lodge, 117 C.R.

C. A. RICE, W.M., do do do

J. S. BOWEN, P.M., St. Andrew's Lodge, 356 R.S.

H. P. LEGGATT, P.M., St. John's Lodge, 182 E.R.

GEORGE VEASEY, Treas., do do do

H. J. PRATTEN, P.M., St. Andrew's, 356 R.S.

J. B. PEAVEY, P.M., Kilwinning, 124 C.R.

CHAS. STORER, W.M., Mount Royal, 202 C.R.

H. ALEXANDER, W.M., Royal Albert, 167 C.R.

W. B. COLBY, P.M., Golden Rule, 12 C. R.

Montreal, September 30th, 1869.

On its reception I lost no time in requesting the attendance of the Worshipful Masters of Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, Royal Albert, No. 167, and Mount Royal, No. 202, whose names are appended to the above circular, (the only brethren from Montreal who had signed it, except three whom I have previously referred to,) in order to ascertain whether any authority had been given them by their Lodges to take such proceedings. I found that these Masters had taken upon themselves to sign the document, without any authority whatever from the Lodges, and that in two out of three Lodges the question had not even been mooted. They (the Worshipful Masters) had no grievances to complain of, which would render a change of jurisdiction necessary, nor could they adduce any reasons which could be considered satisfactory, or which would justify them in the course they were pursuing. I adopted a similar line of argument with them as I had previously done in the case of the others before referred to, and I regret to say, the result in both instances was nearly alike. Accordingly having

been satisfied that all attempts to induce those Brethren to place themselves in a proper position, would prove to be ineffectual, I was most reluctantly compelled to issue Edicts of Suspension against all the Brethren whose names are appended to the Circular calling the Convention, except one, W. Bro. Storer, who on the 14th wrote me to say that after the interview, for reasons given, he would refrain from active participation in the movement, but who, notwithstanding, on the 20th (which I received only on the 21st) wrote to say that for the reason assigned, he withdrew the promise he had made to me in his letter of the 14th. These suspensions, of which the following is a copy, are still in force :

To.....

SIR AND BROTHER,—Whereas your name appears, as having been signed to a Circular addressed to the Worshipful Masters, Past-Masters, Wardens, Officers, and other Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. and A. M., in the Province of Quebec, “requesting them to be duly represented at a Convention to be held in the British Masonic Chambers, in the City of Montreal, on Wednesday, the 20th day of October, at seven o’clock p. m., for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of Free Masonry in this Province; and to proceed, if so decided, to the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec;” and whereas the calling of such convention is an attempt to subvert the authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada within the said Province of Quebec, and is detrimental to the best interests of Freemasonry, calculated to disturb the peace, harmony and unity of the Fraternity, and in utter violation of your Masonic obligation, and the requirements of the Constitution;

Therefore, take notice that the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of A. F. and A. Masons of Canada, has, by the power vested in him, suspended you from all the rights, benefits and privileges of the Order of Freemasonry, and the said suspension to continue in full force during his pleasure, or until the Grand Lodge of Canada shall have taken action thereon.

Given under my hand and Seal of the Grand Lodge, at the City of Hamilton, this Fifteenth day of October, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

By command of the M. W. Grand Master.

THOS. B. HARRIS,
Grand Secretary.

I also issued the following Edict to all the Lodges in the Province of Quebec, and at the same time forwarded copies to all the Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Master, and District Deputy Grand Masters of the various Districts throughout our jurisdiction :

To the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Officers of Lodges, and all Masonic Brethren, to whom these presents may come,—

GREETING :

Whereas, it is within my knowledge, that certain brethren are agitating the question of the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, (that Province being within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada,) and have held unauthorized and clandestine meetings for the purpose of promoting said object; at which meetings arrangements were made for calling what is termed "*a Convention*," to be held in Montreal, on the 20th inst.

And whereas, these meetings have been called and held, contrary to the known opinions and wishes of the existing Masonic Authorities, and inasmuch as the objects contemplated thereby are of a nature calculated to destroy the peace, harmony and unity of the Fraternity.

Therefore, by the authority vested in me, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. and A. M., having supreme Masonic Jurisdiction within the territory for which another Grand Lodge is sought to be established, I do, by these presents, hereby expressly *prohibit* any of the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens or Brethren connected with any Lodge hailing from and being under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, from attending such so-called "*Convention*," or taking any part whatever in any other meeting which may be hereafter called for a similar object; and I do further enjoin upon all the Brethren within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to abstain from further agitation of this question until the next annual communication of this Grand Lodge.

Masters of Lodges will, on receipt hereof, summon a meeting of their respective Lodges, at the earliest possible date, for the purpose of reading this Edict, in open Lodge, so that all the brethren may govern themselves accordingly.

Given at the office of the Grand Master, in the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, this Twelfth day of October, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

A. A. STEVENSON,
Grand Master.

I had hoped that this would have had the effect of postponing any action being taken on the subject, but the following document which was placed in my hands three days afterwards, will shew to Grand Lodge, not only the spirit in which it was received, but also the temper manifested by the chief promoters of the scheme.

To the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers and other Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. and A. M. in the Province of Quebec :

BRETHREN,—Whereas an instrument in writing, purporting to be an edict of the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has been recently issued, with the view to prohibit and deter Masons from using and exercising their just and inherent rights, and to attend a certain meeting called to consider the present state of Masonry in the Province of Quebec, &c., &c. (See Circular dated 30th September, 1869, and signed by the undersigned and others.)

Therefore we, the undersigned, hereby respectfully beg to warn you against said instrument, the said being informal, illegal, and unconstitutional, *not having the Grand Lodge Seal affixed thereto.*

The undersigned respectfully request that, notwithstanding any improper attempt to coerce, the Brethren of your Lodge will not be deterred from attending the meeting above referred to.

J. H. ISAACSON, P. D. D. G. M.
ALEX. MURRAY, P. D. D. G. M.
THOS. MILTON, P. M.

Montreal, October 15, 1869.

On the 14th October, R. W. Bro. M. Gutman, D. D. G. M. for Montreal District, attended in his official capacity, the regular communication of Zetland Lodge, No. 21, for the purpose of reading the above Edict and performing the work of the Lodge, (the W. M. being absent from the country,) and on that occasion was so grossly insulted, his right to occupy the chair called in question in the most insolent and defiant manner, the Edict of the Grand Master being sneered at, and pronounced illegal and worthless, and the conduct of the members present being generally so contumacious, that he felt it to be his duty to suspend the Lodge and take possession of its warrant. His report, delivered to me the following morning, is as under :

MONTREAL, October 15th, 1869.

A. A. STEVENSON, ESQ.,

M. W. Grand Master G. L., Canada,

DEAR SIR AND M. W. BRO.,—I hasten to inform you that at the Regular Communication of Zetland Lodge, No. 21, held last evening, at Masonic Hall, Place D'Armes, I had the honor of presiding—the W. M. being absent in the United States. After considerable delay, and repeated calls for the officers to take their respective stations, I succeeded in getting the Lodge opened. A series of indignities was offered to the high office which I have the honor to hold; my right to preside was questioned, &c., &c. I succeeded, however, in maintaining order until after reading your Edict, forbidding the brethren to attend the so-called "Convention," to be held on the 20th inst. R. W. Bro. Isaacson arose, and stated that said Edict was illegal, lacking the Grand Lodge Seal; that what that document characterised as illegal he stated to the Lodge was *perfectly legal*; that he trusted the members of "Zetland" would not be intimidated by such a worthless piece of paper, &c., &c. After he had finished a speech of a rebellious and unmasonic tenor, I was greatly surprised and pained to find the members present endorse these seditious remarks by a unanimous and uproarious applause. I therefore felt it my painful duty to suspend said Lodge, which I accordingly did, taking charge of the warrant; and shall be glad if you will kindly appoint an hour when you will be pleased to receive this document from me. I need scarcely dwell upon the dreadful scene of uproar and confusion that followed my action; some of the

members rushing at me with clenched fists, threatening personal violence, which, I am satisfied, was only prevented by the prompt and timely interposition* of M. W. Bro. Bernard and one or two others who were present.

I have the honor to be, Dear Sir and M. W. Brother,

Very truly and fraternally yours,

M. GUTMAN,

D. D. G. M. Montreal District.

On the afternoon of Saturday, the 16th October, the Warrant of the Lodge of Antiquity (of which R. W. Bro. Gutman is W. M.) was stolen or abstracted from the Lodge room, where it had been used at an Emergent Communication of the Lodge held on the previous evening. The connection between the suspension of Zetland Lodge and this act of larceny, is apparent from a document received by me on the 18th, of which the following is a copy :

MONTREAL, 18th Oct., 1869.

A. A. Stevenson, Esq.,

SIR,—Unless the Warrant of Zetland Lodge be replaced in the hands of its Senior Warden not later than Tuesday next at noon, an important (?) masonic document now missing, will be *non est inventus*. The missing document to be sent by post to any officer indicated at the time.

.....

I had no doubt as to the author of this production, but deemed it best, in view of the excited state of feeling which then existed, to allow the matter to lay over for a time, trusting that, on reflection, his own sense of duty and propriety would lead him to see the folly of the act, and induce a restitution of the document. So far, however, nothing has been heard from him on the subject. I authorised R. W. Bro. Gutman, the W.M., to continue the work of the Lodge of Antiquity as heretofore, and in case the Warrant should not be restored, a duplicate would be granted by this Grand Lodge.

On the 19th of October, having obtained evidence that Montreal Kilwinning Lodge had appointed delegates to the proposed Convention, I considered it to be my duty to suspend the Lodge, and accordingly issued the following Edict:

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY CONCERN, GREETING.

Whereas, it appears that at the last Regular Communication of Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. and A. M., a resolution was duly proposed, seconded and adopted, appointing certain brethren, members of said Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, to represent that Lodge at a so-called "Convention," to be held in Montreal, on the 20th instant, for the purpose of forming a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, which Province is situated and included within the Territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, under whose warrant and authority the said Montreal Kilwinning Lodge has heretofore existed; and

Whereas, the adoption of the aforesaid Resolution, instructing the representatives named therein, to use their best endeavors to organize a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec, is an overt act of rebellion against the authority of the Grand Lodge of Canada in this Province, and is a practical renunciation of, and withdrawal from, the allegiance due by the members of Montreal Kilwinning Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Canada;

Therefore, in virtue of the power vested in me, as Grand Master, I do hereby suspend the Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, G. R. C., until the Grand Lodge of Canada shall have taken action thereon, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Master. In consequence of this suspension, I furthermore demand on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada, from W. Bro. John P. Peavey, heretofore Worshipful Master of Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, R. C., the immediate surrender of the warrant, books, papers and other property of the aforesaid Montreal Kilwinning Lodge, to be disposed of as the M. W. the Grand Master of Canada may hereafter determine.

R. W. Bro. M. Gutman, D. D. G. M. for the District of Montreal, is hereby empowered and required to serve this Edict upon W. Bro. John P. Peavey aforesaid, and to make the demand aforesaid.

Thus done at the office of the Grand Master, in the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, this Nineteenth day of October, 1869.

A. A. STEVENSON,
Grand Master.

The D. D. G. M. served the Edict upon W. Bro. Peavey, as appears from his report, which is as follows :

MONTREAL, October 22nd, 1869.

A. A. STEVENSON, Esq.,
M. W. Grand Master G. L. C.

DEAR SIR AND M. W. BRO.,—I have the honor to inform you that I duly served your Edict of Suspension on Bro. J. P. Peavey, late W. M. of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124, R. C., which Edict likewise covered the suspension of said Lodge, and in obedience to your commands, did demand of Bro. J. P. Peavey a surrender of the warrant, books, papers, &c., formerly the property of Kilwinning Lodge, No. 124 R. C. In reply to my demand for said documents, he answered : "I decline to deliver them until the Lodge decides it has no further use for them."

I have the honor to remain, Dear Sir and M. W. Bro.

Very truly and fraternally, your obedient servant,

M. GUTMAN, D.D.G.M.
Montreal District.

I take this opportunity of correcting an error which I find prevails amongst our Brethren in the western portion of our jurisdiction. It appears to be understood there that the suspension of Brethren and Lodges took place *after* the organization of the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec. This, however, as will be seen from the foregoing, is not the case. These suspensions were all issued before the Convention was held,—the latest being the 19th of October. No official action of that nature has been taken by me since that date.

On the 20th of October, I had the pleasure of meeting in this city, M. W. Bro. Hall, the Grand Master of Vermont, who had been waited upon at his residence, Swanton, Vt., by a deputation from Montreal, who had strongly urged that M. W. Bro. to come here, to install the officers of the

so-called Grand Lodge, which they intended to form. Learning that a difference of opinion existed on the subject, he thought it advisable to pay us a visit, and inform himself fully upon the subject. In company with M. W. Bro. Bernard, P. G. M., the representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, near the Grand Lodge of Canada, we enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant and, I trust, profitable interview. M. W. Bro. Hall did not attend the Convention, but returned home early next day; a very favorable impression having been produced upon all with whom he came in contact during his brief sojourn among us.

The Convention met in the evening of the 20th October, in the British Masonic Chambers, one of its first acts being the setting aside the suspension of Zetland Lodge as null and void, declaring it yet in good standing, and entitled to representation at that convention. A so-called Grand Lodge, for the Province of Quebec, was subsequently formed, and officers elected and installed, as appeared from the following extract from the Montreal papers of the 22nd October:

“MASONIC.—We learn that the convention of the several lodges of A. F. and A. M., in the Province of Quebec, holden at the British Masonic Chambers, Montreal, on the 20th and 21st of October, inst., pursuant to the circulars in that behalf issued, has resulted in the formation of a Grand Lodge for the said Province of Quebec.

The convention was very largely attended, and the following Lodges were represented, viz.:

St. John's, No. 182, R. E., Quebec.
 St. George, No. 440, R. E., Montreal.
 St. Andrew's, No. 356, R. S., Quebec.
 Prevost, No. 1, R. C., Dunham.
 Golden Rule, No. 12, R. C., Stanstead.
 St. Francis, No. 61, R. C., Richmond.
 Stanbridge, No. 117, R. C., Stanbridge.
 Victoria, No. 71, R. C., Sherbrooke.
 Kilwinning, No. 124, R. C., Montreal.
 Yamaska, No. 130, R. C., Granby.
 Shawenegam, No. 134, R. C., Three Rivers.
 Browne, No. 163, R. C., West Farnham.

Royal Albert, No. 167, R. C., Montreal.
 Victoria, No. 173, R. C., Montreal.
 Ascot, No. 188, R. C., Lennoxville.
 Ashlar, No. 191, R. C., Coaticook.
 Frelighsburgh, No. 199, R. C., Frelighsburgh.
 Mount Royal, No. 202, R. C., Montreal.
 Doric, No. 204, R. C., Danville.
 Tuscan, No. 182, R. C., Levis.
 Zetland, No. 21, R. C., Montreal.

The following Brethren were duly elected and installed officers of said Grand Lodge:

M. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, L. L. D., P. D. G. M., E. T. D.,
 (Richmond) G. M.
 R. W. Bro. J. S. Bowen, P. M., (Quebec), D. G. M.
 " " " M. R. Meigs, P. M., (Bedford), G. S. W.
 " " " J. P. Peavey, W. M., (Montreal) G. J. W.
 " " " Frank Edgar, (Montreal), D.D.G.M., M.D.
 " " " W. B. Colby, (Stanstead), D.D.G.M., St. F. D.
 " " " H. P. Leggett, (Quebec), D.D.G.M. Stadacona D.
 " " " Hon. Thos. Wood, (Dunham), D.D.G.M. Bedford
 District.
 " " " Rev. C. P. Reid, M. A., (Sherbrooke), G. Chap.
 " " " S. McClung, (Three Rivers) G. Registrar.
 " " " Edson Kemp, (Nelsonville), G. Secretary.
 " " " W. B. Seeley, (Dunham), G. Tyler.
 V. " " H. M. Alexander, (Montreal), G. S. D.
 " " " John Breakey, (Quebec), G. J. D.
 " " " Charles Storer (Montreal), G. S. B.
 " " " A. W. Alexander, M. D., (Richmond), G. D. C.
 " " " Charles McKenzie, (Quebec), Assistant do.
 " " " Charles Alexander, (Montreal), G. Organist.
 " " " James Reynor, (Three Rivers), Assistant do.
 " " " R. C. Parsons, (Stanstead), Grand Steward.
 " " " T. Leet, (Richmond), do.
 " " " L. J. Foss, (Sherbrooke), do.
 " " " James Eddie, (Lennoxville), do.
 " " " Geo. Woods, M. D., (Coaticook) do.
 " " " C. P. Tabor, (Farnham), do.
 " " " Charles Rice, (Stanbridge), do.
 " " " C. S. Rowe, (Clarenceville), do.
 " " " R. Marvin, (Frelighsburgh), do.
 " " " J. H. Bartlett, (Granby), do.
 " " " Wm. Armstrong, (Montreal), do.

It will be observed that out of the first eleven names on this list, eight were at that time, and are still, suspended masons, and all the so-called officers were installed by a P. D. D. G. M. himself, also, both then and now, a suspended mason.

On the 21st October, I instructed Grand Secretary to issue a circular to all our sister Grand Lodges, of which the following is a copy :

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. AND A. MASONS OF CANADA,

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Hamilton, 25th October, 1869.

*To the M. W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren,
of the Grand Lodge of——*

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,—I have the honor, by command of the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to bring to the notice of your Grand Lodge the existence of a rebellious and seditious movement by certain malcontent Brethren in the Province of Quebec, with the object and aim of establishing a *second* Grand Lodge within our territorial jurisdiction, the supreme control over which has been recognised and accorded to this Grand Lodge by every Grand Lodge in the world.

These rebellious Brethren, many of whom are under suspension, called a Convention, which met in the City of Montreal on the 20th instant, (at which the public prints report there were about twenty Lodges represented, less than one-half of the Lodges in that portion of our jurisdiction, and two of the Lodges mentioned had been suspended for the contumacious conduct of its members)—and formed a so-called Grand Lodge, electing officers, &c., &c. In the same report it is stated that Bro. J. H. Graham, of Richmond, was elected Grand Master, and Brother Edson Kemp, of Nelsonville, Grand Secretary, &c. Doubtless this pretended organization will shortly make application to your M. W. Grand Lodge for recognition, counsel, and support. The Grand Lodge of Canada is preparing a circular which it is intended shall be sent to all the Grand Lodges with which it is in friendly and fraternal correspondence, containing full and complete information in regard to this most unmasonic and unconstitutional movement; and pending its

reception, I am to express the hope that your Grand Lodge will in no manner accord a recognition to this irregular and clandestine organization.

I have the honor to remain,

Your obedient servant and Brother,

THOS. B. HARRIS,

G. Sec. Grand Lodge of Canada.

On the 23rd of October, I issued letters to each of the D. D. G. Masters in the Province of Quebec, requesting them to obtain at the earliest possible moment, a statement of the number of Lodges in their respective Districts which had taken action on this question, and to forward me a certified copy of the proceedings had in each case, so as to enable me to ascertain the exact position of every Lodge in the Province. From R. W. Bros. Walker and Gutman (Quebec and Montreal,) I received prompt and satisfactory replies. From R. W. Bro. Stearns I learn by his letter of November 25th, that the Lodges in his district, (six, I think, in number) have taken action "in favor of the Grand Lodge of Quebec," and he further informs me that "circumstances have prevented him from obtaining all the information I required." From R. W. Bro. Robinson, I have received a communication which I give entire, as it refers to the fact of his being about to leave Canada, a circumstance which, I feel certain, will be deeply regretted by every member of this Grand Lodge. That R. W. Brother was eminently distinguished for his zeal in the cause of Freemasonry, and labored most indefatigably to promote its interests. To this Grand Lodge he was a peculiarly valuable officer, cheerfully giving his time and talents whenever required, to further every measure calculated to promote its prosperity and advancement. Whilst regretting the removal from amongst us, of so worthy a brother in every respect, we can confidently assure him that the recollection of his labors here will not soon be forgotten, and that he carries with him our most sincere fraternal wishes for his increased prosperity and usefulness in the new sphere to which he is shortly to be called.

His letter is as follows:

WATERLOO, Quebec, 25th Nov., 1869.

MY DEAR SIR AND M. W. BRO.—Your telegram has just been handed me on my return home, and I regret very much to have troubled you in asking for a reply to your letter of the 23rd ult. It came just as I was leaving for the United States, and I had not time then to attend to your instructions, but have since done so, and had hoped for replies in time to write you by Saturday's mail. At any rate I should have written you then. I have not visited Prevost and Stanbridge Lodges, as directed in your letter of the 16th ult., as I was informed by one of them, through a Past Master, that I would not be received other than as a visiting brother. I wrote to the Secretaries of the Lodges that took part in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, asking them to send me certified copies of *all* the proceedings of their Lodges in reference thereto, which I will send you as soon as received.

The regalia is still in my possession. Efforts have been made to obtain it not at all creditable to the party who asked for it; but I will forward it to you.

I regret to say that I shall be unable to attend the Special Communication of the Grand Lodge next week, for I have to-day received a letter calling me to Baltimore on business.

I have also to add that I do not expect to return until about Christmas, and then only to remain a short time before finally leaving the country; so that I beg to tender you my resignation of the office of D. D. G. M. of the Bedford District.

I am very sorry not to have rendered more service to the Craft since my appointment, which I should not have accepted, had I, at the time, contemplated leaving the country.

I trust that the present difficulties may be amicably settled, and that the Brethren may all return to their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Please accept my thanks for your regret at my leaving the country, and my assurance of esteem and regard for you as a friend as well as a Brother Mason.

Fraternally yours,

H. L. ROBINSON,

D. D. G. M. Bedford District.

A. A. STEVENSON, Esq., G. M. Grand Lodge of Canada.

On the 27th of October, I found it advisable to depute R. W. Bro. Gutman to proceed to Three Rivers, to investigate into a complaint which had been made by certain of the Brethren of Shawenagam Lodge, No. 134. That R. W. Bro. fulfilled the task assigned him in a manner which met my warmest approval, and, on his return, he reported that the Warrant of that Lodge had also been abstracted from its usual place of deposit. In this case I gave the same authority as in the case of Lodge of Antiquity. Should the Warrant be retained for any length of time, a duplicate will of course, be granted.

From the foregoing you will have learned something of the recent movement; a few words will now be in place regarding its extent.

In October last, there existed in the Province of Quebec 39 Lodges. Of these, 32 were under our jurisdiction; 5 under English jurisdiction (permitted by virtue of an arrangement entered into between the Grand Masters of England and Canada, in 1859); and 2 under Scotland. Total, 39.

Of this number, 21 were *reported* to have been represented at the Convention which organised the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, two of which were under suspension at the time. Many of these Lodges, however, never gave any authority to be so represented—or rather, I should say, *mis-represented*. This was principally done by Past Masters or Masters who attended the Convention, and took part in its proceedings, in the hope of getting their action afterwards endorsed by their respective Lodges. In other instances, a majority vote was considered sufficient to carry over the Lodge, and it was most assiduously instilled into the membership that it was the duty of every Mason to acquiesce in such a vote when duly passed; although the parties who taught such doctrine knew perfectly well that a majority, however large, cannot, and never could, transfer

the allegiance of a Masonic Lodge. Several of the Lodges reported to have been "*represented*" at the Convention, have since expressly repudiated all connection with the new movement, and remain true to their allegiance with this Grand Lodge. Of these, I may name Shawenegam, No. 134, Three Rivers, and Victoria, No. 173, Montreal. Mount Royal, No. 202, Montreal, I am positively assured, is now unanimous on the subject of remaining under the Grand Lodge of Canada, and will take action accordingly at its next meeting. St. George's, No. 440, E. R., Montreal, had only appointed a committee to watch the proceedings and report; but the members of the Lodge do not intend to commit themselves to the Quebec scheme. A number of the members of Zetland Lodge have presented me with the following petition:

MONTREAL, NOV. 15TH, 1869.

A. A. STEVENSON, ESQ.,

Most Worshipful Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada,

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER.

The undersigned members of Zetland Lodge, No. 21, C. R., beg respectfully to represent, that at the regular communication of that Lodge, held on October 14th, the District Deputy Grand Master, on account of insulting and contumacious conduct of certain of the members, suspended the Lodge, and took possession of its Warrant.

They also avail themselves of this occasion to express their regret that any indignity or insult should have been offered to either the District Deputy Grand Master, or any other masonic authority.

They further state that at the time referred to, several Brethren, whose names are hereunto appended, held opinions favorable to the establishment of an Independent Grand Lodge for this Province; but after careful consideration, they are convinced that the proceedings adopted on the 20th ult., having that object in view, were of a precipitate and unmasonic character, and do not meet with their approval.

They therefore request that the aforesaid suspension, so far as it applies to them, may be removed, and that they may be permitted to continue the work of Zetland Lodge, as heretofore, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada; and inasmuch as the Worshipful Master is absent

from the Province, and both of the Wardens are ostensibly working under what they call another Masonic Jurisdiction, they have further to request that you will appoint such Brethren as you may think properly qualified to discharge the duties of Master and Wardens for the time being.

We remain, Most Worshipful Sir and Bro.,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

ALEX. HOLMES.

JAMES HENDERSON, M. M.

J. G. A. LeBLANC, M. M.

J. S. MARCOU, M. M.

A. J. CAMPBELL, M. M.

C. BERGER, M. M.

GEO. FLETCHER, M. M.

HENRY MILLEN, M. M.

J. L. TETU, M. M.

A. H. LOWDEN, M. M.

F. A. SPAULDING, M. M.

C. P. NAIGLE, M. M.

JAMES H. WELSH, M. M.

GEO. BLACK, M. M.

A. BERNARD, P. G. M.

In regard to which I issued the following:—

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME,—

GREETING :

Whereas a memorial has been presented to me, bearing the signature of a number of Brethren, members of Zetland Lodge, No. 21, C. R., setting forth the fact of that Lodge having been suspended on the 14th of October, by the District Deputy Grand Master for the Montreal District, expressing regret for the insulting and contumacious conduct which gave occasion for the suspension, and praying “that the aforesaid suspension, so far as it applies to the “memoralists, may be removed, and that they may be “permitted to continue the work of Zetland Lodge, as heretofore, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of “Canada,” &c., &c., &c.; and having given the memorial due consideration, I do, by these presents, *exempt* and *release* from the operation, consequences, and effects of the suspension aforesaid, the following Brethren, namely: Brothers Alexander Holmes, James Henderson, Joseph G. A. LeBlanc, J. L. Marcou, A. S. Campbell, Charles Berger, George

Fletcher, Henry Millen, A. H. Lowden, Fred. A. Spaulding, James H. Welsh and Geo. Black, who, together with M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, P. G. M., R. W. Bro. Edwin Morris, P. D. D. G. M., Bros. J. L. Tetu and C. P. Naigle, formerly exempted and released from the suspension aforesaid, are hereby permitted and empowered to continue the work of Zetland Lodge, under the Warrant of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Furthermore, for the reasons stated by the memorialists, I hereby nominate and appoint R. W. Bro. M. Gutman, D. D. G. M., and Bros. James Henderson and Joseph G. A. LeBlanc, to act as Worshipful Master and Senior and Junior Wardens respectively, of Zetland Lodge, No. 21, R. C., until their successors shall have been regularly elected and installed in their stead. The suspension is to continue in full force and effect towards all the members whose names are not mentioned in this Edict.

This done at the office of the Grand Master, in the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, this Eighteenth day of November, 5869.

A. A. STEVENSON,
Grand Master.

As far as numbers are concerned at the present time, the case stands thus :

Lodges under our jurisdiction.....	18
do under English, as before explained...	4
do do Scotland do do ...	1
<hr/>	
Total.....	23

The others, so far as I know, are in sympathy with the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, but it ought to be mentioned that these Lodges are nearly all located in the Eastern Townships; a District presided over for several years by a D. D. G. M., who, I am informed, lost no opportunity during his official visits of urging upon the members of his Lodges the necessity and importance of withdrawing their allegiance from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and setting up an establishment of their own. It may also be stated that in nearly every Lodge adhering to that establishment, there are members who do not approve of the action taken by

their Lodges, but who have not yet felt themselves in a position to oppose it in the manner which it is very probable they will shortly attempt. Meantime the re-action is setting in strongly, scarcely a day passing without some application being made by Brethren for information on the subject, and whilst large numbers disapprove in toto of the idea of a separate Grand Lodge, a still greater number condemn the mode by which it has been attempted to be carried out.

The so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, has not yet, so far as I am aware, issued any manifesto to explain their position or to seek for recognition, but a document has been placed before me, which is addressed "*To the Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. and A. M., of the Province of Ontario,*" bearing the signatures of 16 Brethren residing in the City of Montreal, (9 of whom are under suspension,) and although it purports to emanate from them, and to be circulated solely "on their own responsibility," it may, nevertheless, be taken as a statement of their case; these Brethren having, with a few others, been the chief promoters of the scheme. As its circulation has been confined, for the most part, to the Province of Ontario, I will be compelled, even at the risk of wearying your patience, to read the document, in order to make comments on such portions of it, as in my judgment require notice. Though issued as a "statement of facts," it yet contains many statements worthy of notice, but which are, however, not "facts," according to the usual and obvious meaning of that term. Its sections being numbered, are convenient for reference and comment, and will now be considered seriatim :

The introduction and first section read thus :

To the Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. and A. M. of the Province of Ontario.

MONTREAL, November 18th, 1869.

We, the subscribers, Officers of Lodges in the City of Montreal, having reason to believe that untrue reports have been circulated among our Brethren in the Province of

Ontario, in reference to the recent action of the Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Quebec, beg to submit the following statement of facts, for the consideration of the Masons of the Province of Ontario :

1. That at the time of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and afterwards, and at the time of the Confederation of the Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, in the Dominion of Canada, the Lodges in the Province of Quebec were under four separate governments, viz.: the majority of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, two Lodges, one in Quebec and one in Montreal, under the jurisdiction and in direct correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Scotland; three Lodges in Montreal, under the jurisdiction and in direct correspondence with the Grand Lodge of England; and a Provincial Grand Lodge at the City of Quebec, under the Grand Lodge of England, with a Provincial Grand Master, Grand Wardens and other Grand Officers, having jurisdiction over several Lodges in the City and District of Quebec. These Lodges were all acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Canada, and all the efforts of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to induce the Lodges under foreign jurisdiction to unite under one common Government, have never been attended with success.

NOTE. No. 1.—This clause is speciously drawn, and is calculated to convey an incorrect impression. The idea of concurrent jurisdiction, though not expressly stated, is left to be inferred. Indeed, to any one unacquainted with the position occupied by the few Lodges working by permission under foreign jurisdiction, no other conclusion could be drawn than that this territory was *unoccupied*, that is to say, each of these Grand Lodges had an equal right to plant Lodges here and to exercise Masonic authority. The Lodges working under England and in direct connection therewith, and those working under England and corresponding through the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec are set down in this paragraph as being separate Governments, whereas it is well known that these Lodges were under *one masonic government*, the Grand Lodge of England, by permission, as is explained below. The fact is beyond dispute that the Grand Lodge of Canada is, and has been, since its organization in 1855, the only supreme Masonic authority in

and over the territory formerly known as Upper and Lower Canada, now known as Ontario and Quebec. At the time of the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada by the Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Master of England stipulated with the Grand Master of Canada that the Lodges which still adhered to the Grand Lodge of England, (6 of which were located in Lower Canada, and 3 or 4 in Upper Canada) should be permitted to work under England, so long as the membership of these Lodges desired so to do. Under this permission they have continued to work. But the Grand Lodge of Canada, so far as I can discover, has never taken any action thereon, and no efforts having been made by that body in the direction indicated, the failure alluded to in the last sentence proves to be only a pleasant fiction.

2.—That the Act of Confederation in dissolving the Legislature Union which existed between Upper and Lower Canada, place the then created Provinces of Ontario and Quebec in the position of unoccupied territory in reference to Free Masonry; that this is acknowledged by the best Masonic authorities as in accordance with Masonic law on the subject, and in strict accordance with the precedents established in the United States.

NOTE, No. 2.—The point involved in the 1st part of this section will be taken up when considering the question of the legality of the position taken by these Brethren.

3.—That the fact stated in the last section was recognised by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, at their first meeting after the passing of the Act of Confederation, viz., at Kingston, in July, 1867, as will be seen from the following extracts from the printed proceedings of Grand Lodge at that Communication.

Copy of part of G. M. Wilson's address :

A GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

"The new state of political existence upon which we are now entering, necessarily brings up for our consideration, the effect which it must to some extent, have upon our position as a Grand Lodge. The name, by which, for many years, we have been known and recognised in the Masonic

world, becomes now, it is claimed a misnomer. The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, which has supreme authority in that section of the new Dominion, is as much a Grand Lodge of Canada as we ourselves are. The distinguished Brother who presided at your last annual meeting approved of the idea of a General Grand Lodge, having Provincial Grand Lodges in each Province, and the Board of General Purposes to whom the subject was referred, also reported favorably upon the suggestion made by my Most Worshipful predecessor, but at the same time advised that no immediate action be taken in the matter. What at that time was only an anticipation, has become a reality; and while I readily admit that there is something peculiarly pleasing in the idea of uniting all the members of our fraternity, who reside in the various Provinces now confederated together, into one grand body; and while contemplating also the probability of important territorial additions still to be made to the new Dominion, I must confess that I entertain grave doubts whether a union, embracing such an immense extent of country, would have a tendency to promote the advancement of the best interests of Masonry on this continent. In Great Britain, as you are well aware, there is no General Grand Lodge; and in the neighbouring Republic, each State has a Grand Lodge which exercises supreme Masonic authority in her own jurisdiction. In the year 1859, the subject of a General Grand Lodge for the United States was brought before a Committee of Grand Officers for consideration, and by referring to my address of that year, you will find that I at that time expressed the opinion, that the creation of a General Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over the several States of the Union would neither be expedient nor desirable.

In submitting, however, the whole subject to your careful consideration, I do not wish it to be understood that I either decidedly oppose or approve of the suggestion which has been made. All I mean to convey to you is, that thus far I have not been able to satisfy my own mind, as to the wisest course to be pursued under our present circumstances. But I earnestly request for it, that thoughtful and calm investigation which the great importance of the matter imperatively requires at your hands; and I would suggest, that its consideration be referred to a special committee, who may be able to report during the present session.

Copy of resolution carried in Grand Lodge :

It was moved by R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson:

That so much of the M. W. the Grand Master's address as has reference to the present position of the Grand Lodge, and the establishment of a Grand Lodge for the Dominion of Canada, be referred to a Special Committee to be appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master,—the remaining portion thereof to the Board of General Purposes.

In amendment,

It was moved by R. W. Bro. A. DeGrassi:

That the whole of the address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken on the amendment, it was declared in the negative.

A vote of Grand Lodge was taken on the original resolution, it was declared in the affirmative.

Copy of the report of Committee:

The Special Committee to whom had been referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address having reference to the position of the Grand Lodge, submitted the following

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Canada, in Grand Lodge assembled:

M. W. SIR, OFFICERS AND BRETHREN,—Your Committee, whom the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, in accordance with the vote of Grand Lodge, was pleased to appoint to take into consideration that portion of his address having reference to the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Dominion of Canada, beg leave to report, that having taken into their most careful and mature consideration that portion of the M. W. the G. M.'s address referred to them, have arrived at the conclusion that the best interests of Freemasonry require that the present position, standing, and name of this Grand Lodge be maintained; trusting that the love of union, and a sincere desire to promote the best interests of Masonry, will induce the members of our Fraternity residing in other parts of the New Dominion eventually to unite with us in securing a harmonious and

supreme Masonic government in the Dominion of Canada. And in order that this Grand Lodge may be perfectly cognizant of the mode in which your Committee arrived at this conclusion, they submit for the information of Grand Lodge, a transcript of their proceedings.

"It was moved by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, W. M. Wilson, and seconded by the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, W. B. Simpson :

"That this Committee having anxiously and most carefully considered all the circumstances connected with the recently political change that has taken place, having arrived at the conclusion that the best interests of Masonry require that the present position, standing and name of this Grand Lodge be maintained ; trusting that the love of union and a sincere desire to promote the best interests of Masonry, will induce the members of our Fraternity residing in other parts of the Dominion eventually to unite with us in securing a harmonious and supreme Masonic government in Canada."

"In amendment to the above, it was moved by R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, D. G. M., and seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, D. D. G. M., E. T. D., that all the words in the foregoing resolution after "require" be left out and the following words inserted, so that the whole would read thus :

"That this Committee, having anxiously and most carefully considered all the circumstances connected with the recent political change that has taken place, have arrived at the conclusion that the best interests of Masonry require the organization of a Grand Lodge in each of the four Provinces now constituting the Dominion of Canada, being satisfied that this course would be strictly in accordance with the laws and regulations of Freemasonry respecting the establishment of Grand Lodges, and believing that a more substantial union would thereby be secured ; and also that the affairs of the Craft would be much more effectively and economically managed by this method than by any other."

"On division, the following vote was taken on the amendment :

"Yeas—M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, P. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, D. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. J. H. Graham, D. D. G. M.

"*Nays*—M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, G. M.; M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. James Moffat, P. D. D. G. M.

"The above vote having been declared, M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, P. G. M., Chairman of the Committee, voted 'nay.'

"On division, the following vote was then taken on the resolution :

"*Yeas*—Brothers Wilson, Simpson and Moffat.

"*Nays*—Brothers Bernard, Stevenson and Graham.

"The foregoing vote having been declared, M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington voted 'yea.' Thus the original motion was carried by a majority of one.

"Signed by all the members of the Committee.

J. H. GRAHAM, D.D.G.M., E.T.D.,

Sec. for Committee.

"It was moved by M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, seconded by R. W. Bro. James Moffat :

"That the foregoing report be received and adopted."

NOTE, No. 3.—This section consists mainly of extracts from the proceedings from the Grand Lodge of Canada at the annual communication held in Kingston in 1867, which simply go to prove that the M. W. the then Grand Master, in his annual address, requested Grand Lodge to consider the effect which the then recent political changes would have upon our position as a Grand Lodge, expressly stating, that so far, he had not been able to satisfy his own mind as to the wisest course to be pursued. A special committee was named to consider the subject. The majority of the committee were in favor of the ultimate establishment of a Grand Lodge for the Dominion, the minority, if a change was to be made, preferred a Grand Lodge for each of the Provinces. It appears the whole committee signed the report, embodying the views of the majority. It should be explained in this connection that the question discussed in committee was simply this : a Dominion Grand Lodge, or a

Grand Lodge for each of the Provinces. It was also perfectly understood when the committee rose, that some alterations were to have been made in the wording of the amendment, previous to submitting it to Grand Lodge, but owing to the mover having been suddenly attacked with illness, he had not an opportunity of making the necessary corrections. Whatever changes were made therein were not made by him, and from the cause above stated, not being present in Grand Lodge when the report was submitted, the matter was overlooked until some time after the proceedings were published. It was not considered of sufficient importance to be specially alluded to at subsequent communications, the agitation for a Dominion Grand Lodge having been discontinued, and this is the first opportunity which has presented itself where the explanation could be made.

4. That the Masons from the Province of Quebec in the Grand Lodge of Canada; then consented to the postponement of the question for a time, at the urgent request of the Masons of the Province of Ontario, and G. M. Wilson, in consideration of their having done so, promised to a number of the Brethren from Quebec that, if at any time they had reason to believe that any of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland or England intended to form a Grand Lodge of Quebec (which they had a right to do,) that he would summon a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and arrange an amicable separation.

NOTE, No. 4. The postponement referred to, was accomplished by a distinct vote of Grand Lodge, as appears from the printed proceedings of that year, (1867). The promise said to have been given by our most distinguished Brother, P. G. M. Wilson, is so utterly at variance with the views which he has uniformly expressed, that I am morally certain that an injustice has been done him by the publication of the above sentence. I am convinced he has either been misunderstood or his remarks have been misinterpreted.

5. That no further action has been taken by the Masons of Quebec till just previous to the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada in July, 1868, but that, in that month R. W. Bro. Borlase, P. D. D. G. M., E.T.D., invited the Brethren

of all the Lodges in the Province of Quebec to meet in the City of Montreal and discuss the question. The meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, and representatives attended from a large number of Lodges. It was then resolved that, as the action of the Masons of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in forming Grand Lodges for these Provinces had rendered the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Dominion impracticable, that it was advisable that immediate action should be taken to unite all the different jurisdictions in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario under two separate Grand Lodges, and the representatives to the Grand Lodge of Canada, from Quebec, were instructed to bring this matter before the Grand Lodge in London, and to take immediate action thereon. That when the representatives from the Province of Quebec to Grand Lodge met in London, it was stated to them that it was the earnest desire of the most prominent Masons of Ontario that the separation should still be delayed for a time, and further that, as a security, that their rights would be respected in the meantime, it was the intention of the Masons from Ontario to elect one of their number as Grand Master. That the representatives from Quebec again consented to delay the settlement of the question for a short time on this consideration.

NOTE, No. 5. The interest which must necessarily attach itself to the arrangement mentioned in the last two sentences of this section, would have been greatly intensified, if the names had been added of those "*most prominent Masons of Ontario*," who could thus barter the Grand Mastership for the purpose of prolonging the existence of this Grand Lodge for the short space of even one other year. Had such an arrangement been made, it would in my judgment, have been most discreditable to both parties concerned.

6. That, during the ensuing year, neither the Grand Lodge of Canada nor the Grand Master took any action in the matter. The Masons from Quebec, feeling that the Grand Master was charged with their interests, let the matter rest till the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Montreal, when they expected that all would be arranged and were fully convinced that the Masons of the Province of Ontario would be then ready to arrange an amicable separation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, its properties and funds, between the Freemasons of Quebec and Ontario; but

on the first day of the Session of Grand Lodge, they were astonished and surprised to find that the Grand Master refused even to allow the matter to be brought forward and discussed. That if it had not been from the fact that the Grand Lodge met in Montreal at the request of the Masons from the Province of Quebec, and were then the guests of the Montreal Brethren, the representatives from Quebec would have taken immediate action, but it was deemed best, and in true masonic spirit, not to interfere with the proceedings of Grand Lodge, but to meet together after the communication had concluded its labors, and decide what course would be then best to pursue.

NOTE, No. 6. Referring to the second sentence of this section, it will be sufficient to observe, that on the occasion alluded to, the question was incidentally brought before Grand Lodge, in a discussion originated by a most distinguished Brother, whose views are not in unison with the authors of the document now under review; and I gave it as my opinion then, that it was not competent for any delegate to Grand Lodge, of his own mere motion, to bring forward a resolution either to dismember the Grand Lodge or to extend its jurisdiction. I adhere to that opinion still.

7. That as soon as possible a meeting of the officers of the different Lodges was called, and a Committee named to carry out the resolution of the meeting, that immediate action be taken by the Masons of Quebec to assert their rights. Before this Committee had decided on the action they would advise, it was reported to them that the Lodges forming the Provincial Grand Lodge, under R. E. in Quebec had decided to immediately form themselves into a Grand Lodge of Quebec. From further information the Committee were assured that such was the case, and deputations from the Committee and the Provincial Grand Lodge met for consultation, and the Committee being fully convinced from the result of this meeting, that the Lodges forming the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec, R. E., were decided to take immediate action, it was resolved to issue a joint invitation to all the Lodges in the Province of Quebec, to meet in the City of Montreal, and discuss the question at issue.

The following invitation was then sent to all the Lodges in the Province of Quebec:

[CIRCULAR.]

To the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers and other Brethren of the several Lodges of A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Quebec :

BRETHREN,—At a large and influential meeting of Brethren hailing from different Grand Lodge jurisdictions,—held in the City of Montreal, on the 12th day of August ult., and adjourned to, and held in the same place on the 24th day of September, inst., it was, after mature deliberation, unanimously resolved, that a circular be forwarded to all the Lodges in this Province, requesting them to be duly represented at a Convention to be held in the British Masonic Chambers, in the City of Montreal, on Wednesday the 20th day of October, at Seven o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of Free Masonry in this Province; and to proceed, if so decided, to the formation of a Grand Lodge for the Province of Quebec.

Therefore we, the undersigned, Free Masons in good standing, having been deputed by said meeting, do hereby request all the Lodges in this Province, to be duly and constitutionally represented at the Convention aforesaid, if practicable by *all* their Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens, for the important object above mentioned.

(Signed,)

J. H. GRAHAM, L.L.D., P.D.D.G.M., E.T.D.

J. H. ISAACSON, P.D.D.G.M., M.D.

G. H. BORLASE, P.D.D.G.M., E.T.D.

ALEX. MURRAY, P.D.D.G.M., M.D.

THOS. MILTON, P.M., St. Lawrence Lodge, 640 E.R.

THOS. WOOD, M.L.C., P.M., Prevost Lodge, 1 C. R.

EDSON KEMP, W.M. do do do do

M. R. MEIGS, P.M., Stanbridge Lodge, 117 C.R.

C. A. RICE, W.M., do do do

J. S. BOWEN, P.M., St. Andrew's Lodge, 356 R.S.

H. P. LEGGATT, P.M., St. John's Lodge, 182 E.R.

GEORGE VEASEY, Treas., do do do

H. J. PRATTEN, P.M., St. Andrew's, 356 R.S.

J. P. PEAVEY, P.M., Kilwinning, 124 C.R.

CHAS. STORER, W.M., Mount Royal, 202 C.R.

H. ALEXANDER, W.M., Royal Albert, 167 C.R.

W. B. COLBY, P.M., Golden Rule, 12 C. R.

Montreal, September 30th, 1869.

NOTE, No. 7. The statements contained in the first paragraph of this section are open to grave doubt, from the fact that at the time referred to, there were only two Lodges (the Albion and St. John's) working under the G. L. of England in Quebec, the Charter of the third (the Alma) having been surrendered about a year ago, consequently *no Grand Lodge could possibly have been formed by the remaining two*, nor could a Provincial Grand Lodge even exist with less than three. It is also a fact that *only one* of these two Lodges had given in its adhesion to the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, and even against that, a protest was lodged by one or more of its loyal members.

8. That when the action of the Committee was reported to the meeting of Officers of Lodges, the meeting approved of that action; but being desirous of arranging matters in a proper Masonic manner, and having in view the assurance of G. Master Wilson given them in 1867, they appointed a deputation, consisting of W. Past Master Milton, of St. Lawrence Lodge, R. of England, and R. W. Bros. Isaacson, Murray and Graham, P. D. D. G. M.'s, to wait on the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and acquaint him with what had been done, and to ask his assistance and that of the Grand Lodge of Canada in arranging matters amicably with the Masons of Ontario, and further to request him to call a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the consideration of the position. The deputation reported that they had done their duty, but that the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, much to their surprise, refused to recognise the position of affairs, and refused to report the matter to the Grand Lodge of Canada, in communication, but, at their urgent request, he consented to give them an answer in a few days. The answer came in the form of a summons to appear before him and shew cause why they should not be suspended for violating their obligations as Masons.

In the interim, the circular had been issued to all the Lodges, and the Lodges proceeded to appoint delegates to the Convention. On the second Thursday in October, at the meeting of Zetland Lodge, Montreal, (the W. M. of which Lodge was absent in the Southern States by reason of ill-health,) the D. D. G. M. for the Montreal District (R. W. Bro. Gutman) assumed the chair of the Lodge, and refused to allow the Past Master to take the chair. When the

circular came up for consideration, he refused to allow it to be read, and presented an Edict from the Grand Master on the subject, and on the Past Master of the Lodge protesting against the receipt of the Edict as it had not the seal of the Grand Lodge attached, he, without any action or resolution of the Lodge, and without even asking the opinion of the members of the Lodge on the subject before them, assumed the power to suspend the Lodge, and took possession of the Warrant of the Lodge, and took it away with him.

NOTE, No. 8. The want of knowledge displayed by the author of this section, in regard to the powers and prerogatives of a District Deputy Grand Master, is truly lamentable; even the constitutional provisions respecting that officer seem to have been wholly unknown or entirely overlooked.

9. That this Edict of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, read at Zetland Lodge, threatened with suspension any Mason attending the Convention called for the 20th October.

NOTE, No. 9. Grand Lodge will have noticed that this statement is made without the slightest foundation. The Edict makes no allusion whatever to suspension, and contains no threats of any kind.

10. That on the 20th October, at the British Masonic Chambers, Montreal, the Convention of Lodges was held. Twenty-one Lodges out of the thirty-seven Lodges, of all jurisdictions, existing in the Province of Quebec, were represented by delegates at that Convention, and then and there acting under precedent established, Masonic Law, and the unanimous verdict of all living authorities who had been consulted on the subject, and whose views were placed before the Convention, the Grand Lodge of Quebec was duly constituted, and its officers invested and installed.

The subscribers have deemed it best on their own responsibility, and without the advice and influence of others, to place these facts before the F. and A. M. of the Province of Ontario without comment, further than to say that they consider the suspension of Lodges and Masons, for the action they have taken in this matter, as unwarranted, illegal, and unmasonic. And they are fully convinced that the Masons of Ontario will at once, and without delay, take

such action as will tend to an amicable settlement of the present unfortunate state of affairs, as it is for the interest of the Craft that the Masons of Ontario and Quebec should work together in peace and harmony.

The different Lodges which have met since the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, have in every instance confirmed the action of their delegates, and the subscribers beg to assure the Masons of Ontario, to a large number of whom they are personally known, that the Masons of the Province of Quebec are unanimous (with a few exceptions) in their approval of the action of the Convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

(Signed,)

JNO. HELDER ISAACSON, P.D.D.G.M., P. M. Zetland Lodge.

JOHN RENSCHAW, P.G.J.W., P. M. Montreal Kilwinning Lodge.

ALEX. MURRAY, P.D.D.G.M., P. M. Victoria Lodge.

FRANK EDGAR, D.D.G.M., Royal Albert Lodge.

HENRY J. GEAR, Worshipful Master Victoria Lodge.

JOHN P. PEAVEY, W.M. Montreal Kilwinning Lodge.

HENRY M. ALEXANDER, W.M. Royal Albert Lodge.

CHAS. STORER, W. M. Mount Royal Lodge.

MATTHEW DOYLE, Senior Warden Zetland Lodge.

JOHN S. BARRIE, S. W. Montreal Kilwinning Lodge.

WM. MILLAR, S. W. Royal Albert Lodge.

J. THOMPSON McMINN, S. W. Victoria Lodge.

HENRY McVITTIE, J. W. Zetland Lodge.

JAMES GIBSON, J. W. Montreal Kilwinning Lodge.

J. JOSEPH BERNARD, J. W. Royal Albert Lodge.

ALEXANDER WATSON, J. W. Mount Royal Lodge.

NOTE, No. 10. Regarding the two concluding paragraphs, it need only be observed, that if it be desirable, as it most unquestionably is, "that the Masons of Ontario and Quebec should work together in peace and harmony," these Brethren have adopted a most singular method of manifesting their attachment to, and affection for, their Ontario Brethren, by rudely, rashly, and recklessly attempting to sever the Grand Lodge of Canada, in which both are united, and which has proved of such incalculable benefit to the Fraternity in both Provinces. Respecting the averments of the last sentence of this most impotent production, Grand Lodge

will have already perceived that several Lodges named in a preceding portion of this address, have *not* "confirmed," but on the contrary have repudiated "the action of their delegates," and that several others also named have taken the necessary steps to maintain their allegiance to this Grand Lodge.

Having thus placed before you such facts as appeared to me to be necessary to a clear understanding of the true position of affairs, it yet remains for me to submit as briefly as possible the views I entertain, after most anxious and careful consideration, in reference to the legality or expediency of the recent secession. When the Confederation Act came into operation in 1867, a very general feeling prevailed among the Fraternity within this jurisdiction, that the political changes then made, would to a greater or less degree affect our position as a Grand Lodge, and that a corresponding change would be necessary to adapt ourselves to the new state of affairs. This feeling gave rise to the discussion at Kingston, which has already been sufficiently alluded to. Many Brethren, who, at that time, held the opinion that we ought to make some change, were yet unable to adduce reasons sufficient to satisfy their own minds, on what ground such changes were rendered necessary. There were no precedents, so far as known, either in the Old World or on this Continent, and thus the solution of the problem was rendered much more difficult than it would otherwise have been. Since that period, it is within my knowledge, that some Brethren of eminence who then entertained such views as those above indicated, have, on mature reflection and a closer study of the case, been led to the conclusion that the political changes which took place in connection with the Confederation scheme, did not, in any manner or degree, alter or affect the status or position of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The name may be anomalous,—(though there are good and sufficient reasons why even this should not be changed)—the jurisdiction and authority remain precisely as before. That this must be so will be manifest when we consider the self-evident truth, that an Act of Parliament can neither create or destroy a

Grand Lodge of Freemasons. If this be correct, and I maintain it is, then it follows, as a natural consequence, that the Confederation Act, passed by the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, did not, in the most remote degree, interfere with the standing, position or operations of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the same may be said respecting other organizations existing in this country, apart from and wholly independent of Governmental support or control. The Canada Presbyterian Church, for instance, is still the Canada Presbyterian Church, notwithstanding that the territory, within which its operations are carried on, is now known as Ontario and Quebec, instead of as formerly Upper and Lower Canada. The Canada Wesleyan Methodist Conference is another case in point, and many others could be added.

I am well aware that it is held as a general principle, by eminent authorities on this continent, that Masonic boundaries should be coterminous with political boundaries. This has been the rule in the establishment of Grand Lodges in the United States. But the United States furnishes no parallel to the case under consideration, and therefore comparison is entirely out of the question. The arguments which would be applicable to a number of separate, independent and sovereign States, claiming to exercise exclusive legislative authority and supreme governmental control in all matters, except such as they themselves reserve and depute to the general or United States Government, lose all their point and efficacy when applied to our subordinate Colonial or Provincial condition, where all the power is vested in the General or Dominion Government and Parliament—where only local matters (or such as are in the U. S. termed Municipal) are entrusted to the local governments and legislatures, the Lieut.-Governors of the various Provinces deriving their appointments from the Governor General of the Dominion. In our case, which would be the political boundary to which Masonic government would require to conform? The Dominion or the Provincial? If the former, we possess not the power, as there are two other

Grand Lodges established within the Dominion, whose existence could not be ignored, and whose co-operation we could not at present expect to obtain; if the latter, then every new division of territory, or change of name which might take place in either of the Provinces, would necessitate similar changes in the jurisdiction and names of the respective Grand Lodges. Would this be wise? Would it be expedient? Would it be common sense? Surely there are few to be found prepared to answer in the affirmative.

I can easily understand, that in the organization of a Grand Lodge for a particular Kingdom, State or Territory, it is well to conform to the name of the Kingdom, State or Territory over which that Grand Lodge intends to exercise Masonic jurisdiction and authority, but I most respectfully submit, that after a Grand Lodge is once established and recognised, its existence, jurisdiction and authority, can neither be destroyed, altered, or in any degree affected by either political or governmental action.

Entertaining these views regarding our position, I can see no ground for the opinion put forward by some, that the Province of Quebec is "vacant," or "unoccupied territory." That it was *occupied* from 1855 until Confederation took place, is admitted on all sides, how then can it be said to be *unoccupied* now? Has any one been able to demonstrate why it has become to be unoccupied *since*, when it is acknowledged that it was occupied *before* Confederation? If the Grand Lodge of Canada existed in and exercised authority over the Province of Quebec, as well as Ontario, *previous to Confederation*, by what process of reasoning can it be made to appear that she only exists in and exercises authority over *one* of these Provinces SUBSEQUENTLY to that event? When, and to whose care has she confided the other?

Investigate this subject as carefully and closely as you may, you will, I think, be irresistably led to this conclusion that if the Grand Lodge of Canada exists at all, (and surely no one will deny that) its existence, jurisdiction and authority extends now over every foot of the territory claimed and conceded at its establishment in 1855, and it is to-day

as much the Grand Lodge of the Masons of Quebec as it is of the Masons of Ontario; and that, therefore, *a second Grand Lodge cannot at present, be legally established in either one or the other of these two Provinces.*

But, were it otherwise, are the circumstances surrounding the Masons residing in the Province of Quebec such as would render it expedient or desirable that the present Grand Lodge should be dismembered? Is their position such as would warrant them in breaking off from us and setting up for themselves? Look at the number of Lodges—scarcely 40—including those working under English authority, with in most cases a comparatively limited membership. The population consisting largely of French Canadians, especially in the country parts, forbids the possibility of any very great increase for some time to come. Add to this the further fact—that legislation in that Province will doubtless be made to accord, more or less, with the views of a powerful Ecclesiastical Hierarchy, which places Freemasons in the same category with all other secret societies, of whatever nature; conscientiously regarding all alike as unmixed and unmitigated evils, which it is the duty of every good citizen to assist in exterminating. Under the Grand Lodge of Canada, all is secure; but, if a division took place, the Masons of Quebec would not only be shorn of the strength which their connection with the Masons of Ontario affords, but they would also be deprived of the protection which they now enjoy, and which they can only hope to enjoy while continuing to be part and parcel of the Grand Lodge of Canada. It becomes, then, every prudent Brother to consider well, before attempting to effect a change, which, in my humble opinion, would not only be most detrimental to, if not wholly destructive of, the best interests of Freemasonry; but would, in all probability, place in jeopardy its very existence in this Province. Yet it is a lamentable fact, that many Brethren, without the slightest consideration or forethought, should be found willing, nay, even eager, to assist in the pursuance of such a suicidal policy.

What could the Brethren of Quebec gain by a separation? Strength? Influence? Power? Dignity? Greater means of usefulness, or enlarged facilities for carrying on their charitable or benevolent operations? Nay, in all these respects they would be infinitely worse off than at present. They have always had their fair share, and more than their share of Grand Lodge offices and honors. Their grievances have, in every instance, been carefully considered and properly redressed. Every application to Grand Lodge, from any quarter, for assistance from its ample Fund of Benevolence, has been responded to in the most generous and liberal spirit. The utmost deference has at all times been paid to the views of the Eastern Brethren on all questions coming before Grand Lodge; and, through the magnanimity and fraternal consideration of their Western Brethren, they have been enabled to exercise an influence in Grand Lodge affairs, entirely disproportioned to either numbers, ability, or importance. What more could they possibly desire?

My Brethren, whilst on legal grounds, I have attempted to show that the late attempt to divide this Grand Lodge cannot be maintained, I also trust that on the score of expediency, I have been able to demonstrate to you that it is equally undesirable and unnecessary. In this busy, bustling, changing age, it would be well to remember often the quaint but cautionary proverb, "Let well alone."

Before concluding, it is fitting that I should gratefully acknowledge the obligations under which I am laid to M.W. Bro. Judge Wilson, P. G. M.; M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, P. G. M.; M. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.; M. W. Bro. A. Bernard, P. G. M.; R. W. Bro. James Seymour, Dep. G. M.; R. W. Bro. M. Gutman, D. D. G. M., Montreal District; R. W. Bro. Alex. Walker, D. D. G. M., Quebec District; and R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, our trusty and most efficient Grand Secretary, for the fraternal counsel and support which they extended to me, during the recent painful crisis in our Masonic history.

Having now fulfilled the duty which devolved upon me, I commit this subject to your most careful consideration, praying that the Great Architect of the Universe, will guide your deliberations, and lead you to adopt such measures as will tend to promote peace and harmony, preserve the integrity, and uphold the honor and dignity of the Grand Lodge of Canada, which may God greatly prosper, and evermore perpetuate. So mote it be.

A. A. STEVENSON,

Grand Master,

Grand Lodge of Canada:

MONTREAL, December 1st, 1869.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, seconded by M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington, and

RESOLVED, that the address of the M. W. Grand Master be referred to the following Committee, to report thereon at the session of this Grand Lodge to be held on to-morrow, Thursday, at 10 o'clock, a.m., viz.: M. W. Bros. W. M. Wilson, P. G. M.; T. Douglas Harington, P. G. M.; W. B. Simpson, P. G. M.; A. Bernard, P. G. M.; R. W. Bros. James Seymour, D. G. M.; Thos. B. Harris, D. Curtis, J. Milne, P. J. Brown, M. Gutman, Thos. Matheson, Thos. White, jr., E. P. Remon, S. D. Fowler, John Clarke, Rev. V. Clementi, James Bain, Rev. W. C. Clarke, Otto Klotz, R. P. Stephens, Daniel Spry, Thomas Wilkinson, A. S. Kirkpatrick, S. B. Fairbanks, J. J. Gemmill, E. Racicot, W. H. Vanvleet and the Rev. H. Montgomery; and that all documents referring to the subject of the formation of a so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec, be referred to the same Committee.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment at six o'clock, p. m., to meet on to-morrow, Thursday, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

THURSDAY, 2nd December, 1869.

The Grand Lodge resumed its sittings at 11 o'clock,
a. m.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master,

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The M. W. Grand Master granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing as visitors.

R. W. Bro. the Rev. Vincent Clementi presented his credentials as the accredited representative from the Grand Lodge of Chili in the Grand Lodge of Canada, which were found most satisfactory. The Revd. Brother was greeted with the usual Masonic Honors, and invited to a seat on the dais.

V. W. Bro. Thomas White, jr., in the absence of the Chairman of the Committee, R. W. Bro. Seymour, submitted the following as the report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject embraced in the address of the M. W. Grand Master.

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Canada :

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. the Grand Master, at the opening of this Grand Lodge, beg to report:

That they have carefully considered the subject referred to by the M. W. the Grand Master, and while deeply regretting the circumstances which have rendered necessary the calling of this emergent communication of Grand Lodge at this unusual period of the year, they at the same time

entirely concur with the Grand Master in his opinion, that the events which have lately transpired in the Province of Quebec are of such a nature as to require immediate action on the part of the Grand Lodge, and therefore as fully to justify the calling together of Grand Lodge.

They have read with great pain the narrative of facts connected with the organization of the so-called Grand Lodge of the Province of Quebec, so fully and clearly stated in the address; and after the most careful consideration, they have come to the following conclusions, which they respectfully recommend for adoption by Grand Lodge.

1. That the Province of Quebec has been fully occupied masonically, since 1855, and is still so occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada.

2. That the Province of Quebec, being fully occupied, masonically, by the Grand Lodge of Canada, the formation of a second Grand Lodge, within such territory, is illegal and unconstitutional, so long as such occupation continues.

3. That while unanimously and emphatically condemning the action of the Brethren who have presumed to form the so-called "Grand Lodge of Quebec," within the territory masonically occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada, this Grand Lodge at the same time expresses the hope that the seceding Brethren will see the propriety of returning to their allegiance to it, and assures them that in doing so they will be received with cordiality and brotherly good will; but at the same time it deems it due to its own dignity, and its duty to the loyal Masons and Lodges in the Province of Quebec, as well as to the Craft generally, to withhold any hope of recognition to the so-called "Grand Lodge of Quebec," and to express its opinion that on a proper presentation of the facts of the case, no recognition by other Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, ought to be accorded to it.

4. That all Masonic communication with the Brethren and Lodges acknowledging allegiance to the so-called "Grand Lodge of Quebec," be prohibited; and that all those who fail or neglect to comply with the provision of

the previous resolution, by returning to their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Canada, within a period of three months be summoned to appear before Grand Lodge at its next annual communication, to show cause why they should not be expelled from the privileges of Freemasonry.

5. That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the action taken by the M. W. the Grand Master, in the trying circumstances in which he has been placed owing to the contumacious conduct of certain Brethren in the Province of Quebec, in seceding from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, merits the highest approbation of Grand Lodge, having been characterised by a strict regard for the Constitution of Freemasonry, and for the honor and dignity of the high position he occupies; and that all the acts, which, in the discharge of his high duties, he has done in this most painful emergency, be, and the same are hereby confirmed.

The Committee, in conclusion, expresses its earnest hope that the Brethren who have without due consideration, taken the unconstitutional step of organizing a Grand Lodge within masonically occupied territory, will, upon reflection, see the propriety of returning to their allegiance; and that the Grand Lodge of Canada may be permitted for many years to come, to exercise its high functions without opposition, throughout its entire territory, to the benefit of the Craft at large, and to the building up of those benign principles of brotherly love, relief and truth, which it is its high mission to promote.

Your Committee recommend that the address of the Grand Master, with this report, be printed with all convenient speed, and circulated among the members of the Craft at least ten copies being sent to each Lodge, and that three copies be sent to each Grand Lodge in communication with this grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. SEYMOUR,
Chairman.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, and seconded by M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington,

That the report of the Committee on the M. W. the Grand Master's address, just read, be received and adopted.

After some conversation, it was, on motion of W. Bro. E. Jackson, seconded by W. Bro. the Rev. W. C. Clarke,

RESOLVED, That the report of the Committee should be submitted to Grand Lodge clause by clause for adoption.

The first clause, which is as follows, was then submitted to Grand Lodge, and on motion was unanimously adopted.

1. That the Province of Quebec has been fully occupied, masonically, since 1855, and is still so occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada.

Clause 2, as follows, was then submitted to Grand Lodge, and on motion unanimously adopted.

2. That the Province of Quebec, being fully occupied, masonically, by the Grand Lodge of Canada, the formation of a second Grand Lodge, within such territory, is illegal and unconstitutional, so long as such occupation continues.

Clause 3, as follows, was then submitted to Grand Lodge, and on motion was unanimously adopted.

3. That while unanimously and emphatically condemning the action of the Brethren who have presumed to form the so-called "Grand Lodge of Quebec," within the territory masonically occupied by the Grand Lodge of Canada, this Grand Lodge at the same time expresses the hope that the seceding Brethren will see the propriety of returning to their allegiance to it, and assures them in doing so they will be received with cordiality and brotherly good will; but at the same time it deems it due to its own dignity, and its duty to the loyal Masons and Lodges in the Province of Quebec, as well as to the Craft generally, to withhold any hope of recognition to the so-called "Grand Lodge of Quebec," and to express its opinion that on a proper presentation of facts of the case, no recognition by other Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, ought to be accorded to it.

Clause 4, as follows, was submitted.

4. That all Masonic communication with the Brethren and Lodges acknowledging allegiance to the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec," be prohibited ; and that all those who fail or neglect to comply with the provision of the previous resolution, by returning to their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Canada, within a period of three months, be summoned to appear before the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication, to show cause why they should not be expelled from the privileges of Freemasonry.

[At this point of the proceedings, a question of order was raised as to whether the Grand Junior Warden, R. W. Bro. D. Thomas, was entitled to his seat in Grand Lodge, he being a member of Victoria Lodge, Sherbrooke, P. Q. ; the said Lodge having been reported to have been represented at the Convention, held at Montreal on the 20th October last, and at a subsequent meeting, by a resolution of the Lodge, ratified the action of its representatives in forming a Grand Lodge : thus transferring its allegiance to the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec. The M. W. Grand Master desired R. W. Bro. Thomas to explain his position ; and he having admitted that matters were precisely as represented, and further, that he concurred in the action the Victoria Lodge had taken ; the M. W. Grand Master, with the concurrence of Grand Lodge, decided that the R. W. Brother had no seat in Grand Lodge, and appointed W. Bro. Irvine as Grand Junior Warden, *pro tem*. R. W. Bro. Thomas resigned his collar, and retired amidst the regrets of the members of Grand Lodge.]

In amendment to clause 4,

It was moved by V. W. Bro. J. Billington, seconded by V. W. Bro. A. Diamond,

That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is expedient, in order to promote the best interests of Freemasonry in Canada, that the Brethren now under suspension for forming or attempting to form a Grand Lodge

of Masons for the Province of Quebec, and thereby injuriously, to a serious extent, impairing the usefulness of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in whose jurisdiction the Province of Quebec now is, be summoned to appear before this Grand Lodge, and show cause why this Grand Lodge should not place them upon their trial for violation of their obligations.

A vote of Grand Lodge having been taken by ballot of Lodges, resulted as follows, viz. :

For the amendment	90
Against the amendment	330

The amendment was declared *lost*.

Clause 5, as follows, was then submitted to Grand Lodge, and, on motion, was unanimously adopted.

5. That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the action taken by the M. W. the Grand Master, in the trying circumstances in which he has been placed owing to the contumacious conduct of certain Brethren in the Province of Quebec, in seceding from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada, merits the highest approbation of Grand Lodge, having been characterised by strict regard for the Constitution of Freemasonry, and for the honor and dignity of the high position he occupies; and that all the acts, which, in the discharge of his high duties, he has done in this most painful emergency, be, and the same are hereby confirmed.

The main motion as proposed by M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, seconded by M. W. Bro. T. Douglas Harington, for the adoption of the report of the Committee, as a whole, was then put and adopted unanimously.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Otto Klotz, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. Milne, and unanimously

RESOLVED, That the hearty thanks of this Grand Lodge are due, and the same are hereby most cordially tendered, to the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. Hutton, officers and members of St. Paul's Lodge, E. R., Montreal, for their courtesy in granting the use of their Hall for the holding of this Special Communication.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, seconded by V. W. Bro. Abraham Diamond, and unanimously

RESOLVED, that the thanks of Grand Lodge be tendered to the Committee on Credentials, for the very satisfactory manner in which the duties devolving upon them have been discharged.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. James Seymour, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, and unanimously

RESOLVED, that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Grand Trunk, Great Western, Buffalo and Lake Huron, St. Lawrence and Ottawa, Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly, and the Northern Railways, for the privilege of being permitted to attend this Special Communication at reduced fares.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. L. H. Henderson, seconded by R. W. Bro. Thomas Wilkinson, and

RESOLVED, That the President of the Board of General Purposes be authorised to defray all the incidental expenses in connection with this Special Communication.

The business of this Special Communication of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed in ample form, with solemn prayer, at three o'clock, p. m.

ATTEST.



W. B. Harris

G. Sec'y.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, held at the Village of Odessa, Ont., on Monday, the 16th day of May, A. D. 1870, A. L. 5870.

PRESENT :

M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master.

R. " " John V. Noel, P. D. D. G. M., as Deputy G. M.

" " " H. W. Delany, D.D.G.M. Prince Edward Dist.

V. " " Robert Henry, jr., as Grand Senior Warden.

" " " E. H. Parker, as " Junior "

" " " Rev. L. A. Betts, as " Chaplain.

" " " James Greenfield, jr., as " Treasurer.

" " " John Kerr, as " Registrar.

" " " B. A. Booth, as " Secretary.

" " " R. W. Barrow, as " Senior Deacon.

" " " W. R. Moore, as " Junior "

" " " T. Ashton, as " Supt. of Works.

" " " Robert Town, as " Dir. of Cer.

" " " Jas. Greenfield, sen., as " Pursuivant.

" " " F. R. Wycott, as " Tyler.

" " " Hiram Leonard, }

" " " James Allen, }

" " " J. K. Booth, }

" " " Joseph Woodruff, }

as " Stewards.

And the Masters, Wardens, and a large number of Brethren, hailing from the following Lodges, viz.: Prince Arthur Lodge, Odessa; St. John's Lodge, No. 4, Kingston; Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92, Kingston; Union Lodge No. 9, Napanee; Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath; Albion Lodge, No. 109, Harrowsmith; Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 146, Newburgh.

M.W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, Grand Master, announced to the Brethren that he had been invited by the Rev. Bro. Betts, Pastor, to lay the foundation stone of the new Methodist Episcopal Church, which was about to be erected in that Village, and having consented to do so, had instructed the Grand Secretary to summon a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge to assist him in performing the ceremonies.

The Grand Lodge was opened in **ample form** at high twelve.

A procession was formed under the guidance of the Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, in the order as laid down in the Book of Constitution, headed by the band of the 47th Battalion, and proceeded to the site of the new building, where a large concourse of people had assembled to witness the ceremonies.

The procession halted and formed a double column facing inwards, when the M. W. Grand Master, preceded by his Sword Bearer, and followed by the Grand Officers, passed through the procession, and having taken their proper position around the foundation stone, the Brethren forming around them, the Grand Master commenced the ceremonies with the following address :

Men, women and children assembled to-day to behold this ceremony : Know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God, who is the Great Architect of all things, to confer benefits on our Brethren, and to practice universal benevolence to all mankind. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered ; but these secrets are lawful and honorable, and are placed in the custody of Masons, who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time. Unless our Craft were good, and our calling honorable, we should not have existed for so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrious Brethren in our order ever ready to sanction our proceedings and contribute to our prosperity. To-day we are assembled, in the presence of you all, to lay the corner stone of this building according to the rules of Masonry, but before proceeding our Reverend Chaplain will implore a blessing from heaven on our undertaking.

GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Great Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of all the worlds, deign from thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory to help us in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly pray Thee to give us at this and at all times wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, Oh ! thou Author of life and light, great source of love and happiness to erect this building so that hereafter it may be useful and blessed for the all-important purposes for which it is intended, and the promotion of Thy glory.

The Brethren responded :

Glory to God in the highest. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The inscription on the parchment placed in the cavity was read by the Acting Grand Secretary as follows :

By the favor of Almighty God.

On the Sixteenth day of May, A. D. 1870,
And of the Era of Freemasonry, A. L. 5870,
And in the Thirty-fourth year of the reign of Our Gracious Majesty, Queen
Victoria,

His Excellency Sir JOHN YOUNG, K. C. B., C. G. M., being Governor
General of the Dominion of Canada,
The Hon. WILLIAM PEARCE HOWLAND, C. B., Lieutenant-Governor of
the Province of Ontario,
Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, Attorney-General of the Dominion of
Canada,
Hon. JOHN S. MACDONALD, Attorney-General of the Province
of Ontario,
Reverend L. A. BETTS, Pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church,
Odessa.

This Foundation Stone of the M. E. Church Was laid by

ALEXANDER ALLAN STEVENSON, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge
of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in accordance
with the ancient usages of Masonry,

WHICH MAY GOD PROSPER.

BUILDING COMMITTEE.

George Metzler, Henry Henzy, N. M. Venton,
Silas Vrooman, W. R. Moore.

CONTRACTORS:

Leonard & Sauls.

Copies of the *British Whig*, *Napanee Express*, *Ad-
dington Beaver*, *Christian Advocate*, Minutes of Bay of
Quinte Annual Conference of 1869 and 1870, coins of the
denomination of 20, 10, 5 and 1 cent pieces, were also
placed in the box with the parchment.

The box having been placed in the cavity, Rev. Bro. Betts
on behalf of the members of the M. E. Church, presented
the M. W. Grand Master with a handsome Silver Trowel,
bearing the following inscription:

Presented to A. A. STEVENSON, Esq., Grand Master of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Odessa, May 16th, 1870.

On receiving which, the Grand Master replied :

Accept my thanks for this handsome Trowel which you have so kindly presented to me. It is one of the most useful and highly prized instruments of our Craft. I shall preserve your gift as a memento of the interesting proceedings of this day.

The Grand Master then spread the cement, and the stone was lowered by three regular stops, solemn music being played.

The Grand Master then instructed the Grand Junior Warden to apply the Plumb, the Grand Senior Warden the Level, and the Deputy Grand Master the Square.

G. M.—Brother Grand Junior Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office ?

G. J. W.—The plumb rule.

G. M.—Have you applied the plumb to the edges of the stone ?

G. J. W.—I have, Most Worshipful Sir, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

The same questions as to the level and square, with a like response, were put to and given by the G. S. W. and the D. G. M.

The Grand Master said : Brethren, having full confidence in your skill in our Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish the work. He gave the stone three knocks with the gavel, and added : *Well made, well proved, truly laid, true and trusty.* And may this undertaking be completed by the Craftsmen, according to the grand plan, in Peace, Harmony, and Brotherly Love.

Corn, Wine and Oil were then handed to the Grand Master by the Deputy, who poured each upon the stone, and said :

I strew corn upon this stone as an emblem of Plenty; I pour wine upon it as an emblem of Cheerfulness; and I anoint it with oil as an emblem of Comfort and Consolation.

The Grand Master then pronounced the following Benediction :

May Corn, Wine and Oil, and all the necessities of life abound among men throughout the world, and may the blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe be upon this edifice and all connected with it.

Response—So mote it be. Amen.

The Grand Master then handed the implements and plans to the Architect, saying :

The foundation stone of this building being now laid, I present you the implements applied to it, and also the plans, in full confidence that as a skilful and faithful workman you will use them in such a manner that the building may rise in order, harmony and beauty; and being perfected in strength, that it may answer every purpose for which it is intended, to your credit, and the satisfaction and honor of those who have selected you for the work.

The Grand Master, addressing the Pastor, said :

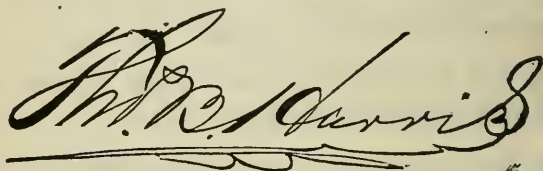
Rev. Sir, having completed our work according to the ancient usages of Freemasonry, we offer you our congratulations, and transfer the building to you for completion, having no doubt that as it has been happily begun, it will be carried on by God's will to a happy ending.

The Grand Treasurer here deposited some coin on the stone for the workmen.

Cheers were then given for the Queen, and the Grand Master, after which the procession re-formed and proceeded to the Drill Shed, where refreshments were provided for the Brethren, after partaking of which, several of the Brethren delivered short and appropriate addresses.

The Grand Master, also, was pleased to address the Brethren, which he did very eloquently, referring to the proceedings of the day, the duties of Masons, the benefits of Masonry, etc.

The procession was again formed and returned to Prince Arthur Lodge Room. After some remarks by the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form with solemn prayer.

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. R. Harris". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a decorative flourish.

G. Sec'y.



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